



DECLARATION FOR PATENT APPLICATION

Attorney Docket No: 190251-1270

I, the below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

I believe I am an original, first and joint inventor of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled **Method and Apparatus for Routing Calls Based on Identification of the Calling Party or Calling Line**, the specification of which:

☐ is attached hereto.

☒ was filed on **June 16, 1997** as Application Serial No. **08/876,839**, as amended on the dates referenced below.

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, amended as attached:

May 27, 1999;
November 30, 1999;
August 8, 2000;
April 30, 2001;
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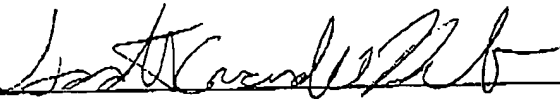
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I/we hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, 119(a)-(d) or (f), or 365(b) of any foreign application(s) for patent, inventor's or plant breeder's rights certificate(s), or 365(a) of any PCT international application which designated at least one country other than the United States of America listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent, inventor's or plant breeder's rights certificate(s), or any PCT international application having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:
NOT APPLICABLE.

I/we hereby appoint all of the attorneys and agents of Customer Number **38823** as my/our attorneys and agents to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the United States Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith, recognizing that the specific attorneys and agents listed under that Customer Number may be changed from time to time at the sole discretion of Thomas, Kayden, Horstemeyer & Risley, LLP/BellSouth IP Corp., and request that all correspondence be addressed to the address filed under the same USPTO Customer Number. I/we hereby also appoint, as my/our attorneys and agents to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the United States Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith, Jeffrey R. Kuester, Reg. No. 34,367, Todd Mitchem, Reg. No. 40,731, Geoff Sutcliffe, Reg. No. 36,348, Jennifer Pearson Medlin, Reg. No. 41,385, all of whom are also currently associated with the same Customer Number.

38823

I hereby declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States of America that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and correct and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true and correct; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Inventor's Signature:  Date: 7/20/2006
(FIRST of EIGHT Inventors)

Full Name of Inventor: Scott Crandall Holt

Residence: 1215 Blueberry Trail Citizenship: US

Decatur, GA 30033

Post Office Address: 1215 Blueberry Trail

Decatur, GA 30033

SEVEN Additional Declarations Attached.



DECLARATION FOR PATENT APPLICATION

Attorney Docket No: 190251-1270

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Inventor's Signature: Christopher Bertram Medders Date: 5/17/06
(SECOND of EIGHT Inventors)

Full Name of Inventor: Christopher Bertram Medders

Residence: 601 Willow Creek Lane #211 Citizenship: US
Woodstock, GA 30188

Post Office Address: 601 Willow Creek Lane #211
Woodstock, GA 30188

SEVEN Additional Declarations Attached.

DECLARATION FOR PATENT APPLICATION

Attorney Docket No: 190251-1270

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Inventor's Signature: _____

(THIRD of EIGHT Inventors)

Date: _____

Full Name of Inventor: _____

Drina C. Yue

Residence: _____

3/F, 2 Monmouth Terrace

32A, 3 Kennedy Rd

Citizenship: US

Central
Wanchai, Hong Kong

Post Office Address: _____

3/F, 2 Monmouth Terrace

32A, 3 Kennedy Rd

Central
Wanchai, Hong Kong

SEVEN Additional Declarations Attached.



DECLARATION FOR PATENT APPLICATION

Attorney Docket No: 190251-1270

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Inventor's Signature:  Date: 6/27/06
(FOURTH of EIGHT Inventors)

Full Name of Inventor: Raymond J. Smets

Residence: 2015 Westbourne Way Citizenship: US
Alpharetta, GA 30022

Post Office Address: 2015 Westbourne Way
Alpharetta, GA 30022

SEVEN Additional Declarations Attached.



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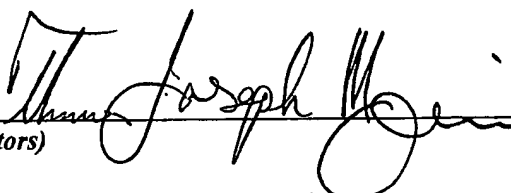
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Inventor's Signature:  Date: 3/1/2006
(FIFTH of EIGHT Inventors)

Full Name of Inventor: Thomas Joseph Moquin

Residence: 2625 Grassview Drive Citizenship: US

Alpharetta, GA 30004

Post Office Address: 2625 Grassview Drive

Alpharetta, GA 30004

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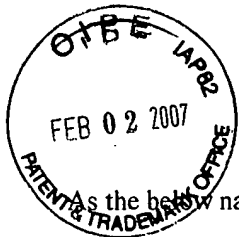
Inventor's Signature: _____ Date: _____
(*SIXTH of EIGHT Inventors*)

Full Name of Inventor: Evan Kraus

Residence: 1136 Reeder Circle Citizenship: US
Atlanta, GA 30306

Post Office Address: 1136 Reeder Circle
Atlanta, GA 30306

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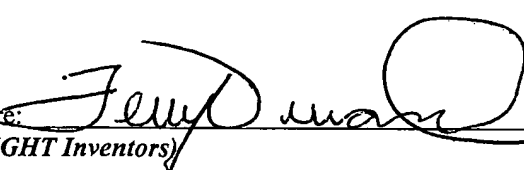
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(SEVENTH of EIGHT Inventors)

Date: 6/16/2006

Full Name of Inventor: Terry Durand

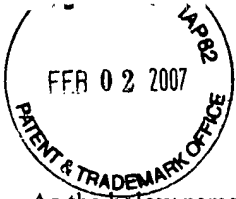
Residence: 3445 Chartley Lane, NE Citizenship: US

Roswell, GA 30075

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Inventor's Signature: Lawrence R. Berke Date: 5/16/06
(EIGHTH of EIGHT Inventors)

Full Name of Inventor: Lawrence R. Berke
Residence: ~~1825 Redbourne Drive~~ 3731 SPINNAKER CIR Citizenship: US
~~Atlanta, GA 30350~~ ALPHARETTA, GA 30005
Post Office Address: ~~1825 Redbourne Drive~~ 3731 SPINNAKER CIR
~~Atlanta, GA 30350~~ ALPHARETTA, GA 30005

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Patents

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
Holt, et al.) Art Unit: 2742
Serial No. 08/876,839) Examiner: Benny Quoc Tieu
Filed: June 16, 1997)
For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR)
ROUTING CALLS BASED ON THE)
IDENTIFICATION OF THE CALLING)
PARTY OR CALLING LINE)

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

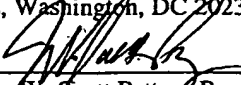
In response to the Official Action mailed January 7, 1999, please reexamine and reconsider the application in view of the following amendment and the appended remarks.

AMENDMENT

In the Claims

Please amend the claims as follows:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner of Patents, Washington, DC 20231, on May 27, 1999.


W. Scott Petty Reg. No. 35,645

1. (Once Amended) In an integrated computer telephony system including a call routing system, a method for routing a call based on the identity of an originating source of said call, comprising the steps of:

maintaining a plurality of routing lists, each of said routing lists being associated with at least one originating source and comprising a plurality of directory numbers;

receiving said call from said originating source;

selecting a routing list associated with said originating source from said plurality of routing lists; and

directing said call according to said routing list.

5. (Once Amended) In a program module responsive to receiving communications for a personal number subscriber, a method for routing a communication to said subscriber, comprising the steps of:

maintaining a plurality of routing lists, each said routing list being associated with at least one originating party and at least one personal number and comprising a plurality of directory numbers;

receiving a communication directed to a personal number from an originating party;

selecting a routing list associated with said personal number and said originating party; and

routing said call in accordance with said routing list.

11. (Once Amended) A computer system for routing calls for a personal number subscriber based on the [CLID] calling line identification of an originator, comprising:

a processing unit;

a memory storage device operative to store a plurality of routing lists for said personal number subscriber, each said routing list comprising a plurality of directory numbers;

a receiving interface device coupled to said processing unit for receiving calls;

a transmitting interface device coupled to said processing unit for placing calls;

said processing unit being operative to:

receive a call on said receiving interface device, said call being directed to said personal number subscriber;

detect a [CLID] calling line identification for said originating party;

retrieve an associated routing list from said memory storage device for said [CLID] calling line identification;

retrieve a default routing list from said memory storage device if said associated routing list does not exist; and

direct said call setup request in accordance with said routing list.

13. (Once Amended) A computer-readable medium on which is stored a computer program for selecting a routing list based on an identifying criteria, and a data file containing a plurality of routing lists for a called party, said computer program comprising instructions which, when executed by a computer, perform the steps of:

receiving a communication for said called party;

obtaining said identifying criteria from said communication;

retrieving a routing list from said data file based on said identifying criteria;

and

directing said communication in accordance with said routing list.

14. (Once Amended) The computer-readable medium recited in claim 13, wherein said identifying criteria comprises a [CLID] calling line identification message and said step of obtaining an identifying criteria further comprises receiving said [CLID] calling line identification message.

15. (Once Amended) The computer-readable medium recited in Claim 13, wherein said identifying criteria comprises a [DTMF] dual tone multi-frequency code sequence and said step of obtaining an identifying criteria further comprises detecting said [DTMF] dual tone multi-frequency code sequences.

16. (Once Amended) The computer-readable medium recited in Claim 13, wherein said identifying criteria comprises a [DTMF] dual tone multi-frequency code sequence and said step of obtaining an identifying criteria further comprises the steps of:

providing keypad menu selection options to said called party; and

receiving a [DTMF] dual tone multi-frequency signal corresponding to a keypad menu selection from said called party.

REMARKS

The Applicant and the undersigned attorney thank Examiner Quoc Tieu for the Examiner's careful review of this patent application. Reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendment and the following remarks, which are responsive to the Official Action mailed January 7, 1999. In the Official Action, the Examiner objected to claims 11 and 14-16, and rejected claims 1-16. Upon entry of this amendment, claims 1-16 remain pending.

Claim Objections

The Examiner objected to claims 11 and 14-16 on the ground that these claims refer to "CLID" and "DTMF" rather than to the terms for which they stand, "calling line identification" and "dual tone multi-frequency." Applicant submits that claims 11 and 14-16 have been amended in the manner suggested by the Examiner to refer to "calling line identification" and "dual tone multi-frequency." These claim amendments are not submitted to further distinguish the recited invention over the prior art of record. Accordingly, the Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the objections to these claims.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 112

The Examiner rejected claims 11 and 12 as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention. In particular, the Examiner rejected claim 11 on the ground that it lacks antecedent basis in that at line 12 the claim refers to "said interface device" rather than to "said receiving interface device" or "said transmitting interface device." The Examiner rejected claim 12 because it depends from claim 11.

The Applicant submits that claim 11 has been amended to distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention. In particular, claim 11 has been amended to refer to "said receiving interface device" rather than to "said interface device." Accordingly, the Applicant respectfully submits that the pending rejections of claims 11 and 12 under 35 U.S.C. §112 have been traversed. These claim amendments are not submitted to further distinguish the recited invention over the prior art of record. The Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the pending rejections of these claims.

Claims 1 and 5 have also been amended to correct inadvertent typographical errors. The Applicant submits that these claims are in condition for allowance.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

The Examiner rejected claims 1-16 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,329,578 to Brennan et al. ("*Brennan*"). The Applicant respectfully offers remarks to traverse the pending rejections.

Brennan Fails to Teach, Suggest, or Describe Each Recitation of Claims 1-

16

Claim 1

The pending rejection of claim 1 is respectfully traversed. The Applicant respectfully submits that *Brennan* fails to describe, teach, or suggest each of the recitations of claim 1. In particular, *Brennan* fails to teach or suggest maintaining “a plurality of routing lists, each of said routing lists being associated with at least one originating source and comprising a plurality of directory numbers.”

Brennan describes a personal communication service that permits incoming calls to a telephone subscriber to be re-routed according to the numbers listed in a single subscriber number list associated with the subscriber's account. (*Brennan*, col. 5, lines 60-68). The disclosure of *Brennan*, however, does not teach or suggest utilizing separate routing lists associated with originating sources. *Brennan* only describes a single routing list associated with the subscriber's account that is applied to all incoming calls. For instance, at col. 4, lines 27-31, *Brennan* states “. . . the service node 10 will attempt call completion according to the subscriber's profile contained at the service node 10.”(emphasis added). Accordingly, *Brennan* does not teach or suggest routing lists associated with originating sources. By providing separate routing lists associated with originating sources, the invention of claim 1 allows the subscriber to specify a different routing list for each originating source. For instance, the subscriber may specify a separate routing list for calls originating from the subscriber's home phone number to minimize interruptions due to personal calls. This advantage is not possible using the disclosure of *Brennan*. Accordingly, *Brennan* does not teach or suggest this recitation of claim 1.

Brennan also fails to teach, suggest, or describe “selecting a routing list associated with said originating source from said plurality of routing lists; and directing said call according to said routing list.” As discussed above, *Brennan* only describes a single routing list associated with the

subscriber's account. *Brennan* does not describe or suggest separate routing lists associated with originating sources. Therefore, *Brennan* does not describe selecting a routing list associated with an originating source and routing the call from the originating source according to the selected routing list. Because *Brennan* does not teach, suggest, or describe each recitation of claim 1, the Applicant submits that the pending rejection of claim 1 has been traversed, and respectfully requests that the Examiner allow this claim.

Claims 2-4, 6, and 7

The Applicant respectfully submits that *Brennan* fails to teach or describe each recitation of claims 2-4, 6, and 7. In particular, *Brennan* does not teach or suggest associating a routing list with *an originating source*, such as a directory number, an identification code, or a calling line identification, and also does not teach or suggest "retrieving an associated routing list for" an originating source. Moreover, because *Brennan* does not teach or suggest separate routing lists for originating sources, *Brennan* also does not teach "retrieving a default routing list" if a routing list associated with the originating source does not exist.

The Examiner alleges that *Brennan* teaches that the default routing list is to route the caller to voice mail. Voice mail, however, does not comprise a routing list of directory numbers for routing a call from an originating source. Rather, voice mail is simply a single destination for a call from an originating source. Accordingly, *Brennan* does not teach, suggest or describe each and every recitation of claims 2-4, 6, and 7. Therefore, the Applicant submits that the pending rejections of claims 2-4, 6, and 7 have been traversed.

Claim 5

Brennan fails to teach, suggest, or describe each recitation of claim 5. In particular, *Brennan* fails to teach, suggest, or describe maintaining a plurality of routing lists associated with

“at least one originating party and at least one personal number.” As discussed above with respect to claim 1, *Brennan* fails to teach or suggest associating routing lists with originating sources. For the same reasons, *Brennan* also fails to teach associating routing lists with originating sources and at least one personal number. By associating routing lists with originating sources and a personal number, the invention of claim 5 is able to easily identify the subscriber and provide a level of security not provided by the disclosure of *Brennan*. Accordingly, *Brennan* does not teach, suggest, or describe this recitation of claim 5.

Brennan also fails to teach, suggest, or describe “selecting a routing list associated with said personal number and said originating party; and routing said call in accordance with said list.” Because *Brennan* does not teach or suggest associating a routing list with an originating party and a personal number, it also does not teach or suggest selecting such a list and routing a call in accordance with such a list. Accordingly, the Applicant submits that *Brennan* does not teach each recitation of claim 5 and that the pending rejection has been traversed.

Claims 8-10

Brennan fails to teach, suggest, or describe each recitation of claims 8-10. In particular, *Brennan* fails to teach or suggest selecting a routing list identified for an originating party based on the day of the week a communication is received, the time of day a communication is received, or both. At col. 6, lines 46-69, *Brennan* describes separate routing lists for different days of the week and different times. However, each of these lists is associated with the subscriber's profile, not with an originating source. By associating routing lists with an originating party and selecting a routing list based on the time of day, day of week, or both, the inventions of claims 8-10 allow a degree of flexibility not found in the disclosure of *Brennan*. For instance, using the invention of claim 8, a separate routing list may be created for a specific originating party for each day of the week. This type of customization is not possible under the disclosure of *Brennan*. Accordingly,

Brennan does not teach, suggest, or describe each recitation of claims 8-10 and the Applicant submits that the pending rejections of these claims have been traversed.

Claim 11

The pending rejection of claim 11 is respectfully traversed. The Applicant respectfully submits that *Brennan* fails to describe, teach, or suggest each of the recitations of claim 11. In particular, *Brennan* fails to teach or suggest retrieving “an associated routing list from said memory storage device for said calling line identification.” As discussed above with respect to claim 1, *Brennan* does not teach or suggest utilizing separate routing lists associated with originating sources. *Brennan* only describes a single routing list associated with the subscriber’s account that is applied to all incoming calls. Accordingly, *Brennan* does not teach or suggest associating a routing list with a calling line identification or retrieving such a list. By providing separate routing lists associated with a calling line identification, the invention of Claim 11 allows the subscriber to specify a different routing list for each calling line identification. This advantage is not possible using the disclosure of *Brennan*. Accordingly, *Brennan* does not teach or suggest this recitation of Claim 11.

Because *Brennan* does not teach or suggest separate routing lists for each calling line identification, *Brennan* also does not teach retrieving “a default routing list” if a routing list associated with the calling line identification does not exist. Likewise, *Brennan* also does not teach or suggest directing a call setup request in accordance with such a routing list. Accordingly, the Applicant submits that the pending rejection of claim 11 has been traversed and respectfully requests that this claim be allowed.

Claim 13

The pending rejection of Claim 13 is respectfully traversed. The Applicant respectfully submits that *Brennan* fails to describe, teach, or suggest each of the recitations of Claim 13. In particular, *Brennan* fails to teach or suggest obtaining an identifying criteria from a communication directed to a called party, retrieving a routing list based on the identifying criteria, and directing the communication in accordance with the routing list. *Brennan* describes the use of an identification password by individual callers to obtain "special treatment." (*Brennan*, col. 5, lines 4-8). However, the "special treatment" described by *Brennan* only includes playing a special message to the caller or giving the call special status. (*Brennan*, col. 5, lines 8-15). The "special treatment" described by *Brennan* does not include or suggest retrieving a routing list based on the identifying criteria, or routing the call in accordance with the routing list. Accordingly, the Applicant submits that *Brennan* does not teach or suggest each recitation of claim 13 and submits that the pending rejection of claim 13 has been traversed. The Applicant respectfully requests that this claim be allowed.

Claims 12, 14-16

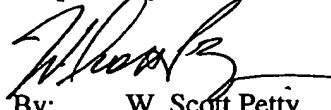
The Applicant respectfully submits that dependent claims 12 and 14-16 are allowable because the independent claims from which they depends are patentable over the cited reference. The Applicant also respectfully submits that the recitations of these claims are of patentable significance. Accordingly, the Applicant respectfully traverses the pending rejections of claims 12 and 14-16, and respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the pending rejections of this claims.

CONCLUSION

The foregoing is submitted as a full and complete response to the Official Action mailed January 7, 1999. Applicant and the undersigned thank Examiner Quoc Tieu for the Examiner's consideration of these remarks. Applicant has amended the application to remedy the formal defects cited by the Examiner and has submitted remarks to traverse the pending rejections of claims 1-16. Applicant therefore respectfully submits that the present application is in condition for allowance. Such action is hereby courteously solicited.

If any other issues remaining in this application may be resolved by a telephone conference, the Examiner is respectfully requested to directly contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,


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Patents

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)	
)	
HOLT et al.	)	Examiner: B. Tieu
)	
Serial No. 08/876,839)	
	)	Art Unit: 2742
Filed: June 16, 1997)	
)	
For: Method and Apparatus for)	
Routing Calls Based on the)	
Identification of the Calling)	
Party or Calling Line)	

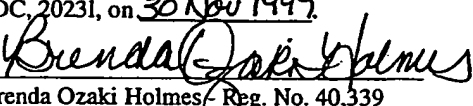
RESPONSE TO SECOND OFFICE ACTION

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed August 17, 1999, in the above-styled patent application, the period for response being extended one month to December 17, 1999 by the enclosed petition for extension of time and fee, please amend the application as follows and consider the appended remarks.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC, 20231, on 30 Nov 1999.


Brenda Ozaki Holmes - Reg. No. 40,339

AMENDMENTS

In the Specification

On page 1, lines 1 – 4, delete the sentence “Application Serial No. 07/936,384, filed August 26, 1992, entitled ‘Personal Number Communications System’, assigned to BellSouth Corporation, the assignee of the present application, is attached hereto as Appendix A.”

On page 1, line 20, change the phrase “Application Serial No. 07/936,384” to --U.S. Patent No. 5,764,747, entitled “Personal Number Communication System,”--.

On page 1, lines 24 – 29, delete the sentences “If Application Serial No. 07/936,384 is allowed, application will be substituted as provided by MPEP 608.01 (p). If Application Serial No. 07/936,384 is not allowed or abandoned, then Appendix A will be incorporated into the specification of this application by amendment to satisfy the best mode disclosure requirements.”.

On page 2, line 15, change the word “Service” to --system--.

On page 2, line 23, change the word “which” to --that--.

On page 4, line 13, delete the word “which”.

On page 4, line 17, after “particular” insert the word --dual tone multi-frequency--.

On page 4, line 17, change the word “DTMF” to --(DTMF)--.

On page 6, line 7, change the word “for” to --to--.

On page 6, line 24, change the word “being” to the phrase --will be--.

On page 7, line 3, change the word “the” to the word --a--.

On page 7, line 3, before “PSTN” insert the word --public switched telephone network--.

On page 7, line 3, change the word “PTSN” to the word --(PTSN)--.

In the Drawings

Please amend FIG. 6 as indicated in red on the attached copy.

In the Claims

Please amend the following claims as indicated by deleting the bracketed portions and by inserting the underlined portions:

1. (Twice Amended) In an integrated computer telephony system including a call routing system, a method for routing a call based on the identity of an originating source of said call, comprising the steps of:

maintaining a plurality of routing lists, each of said routing lists being associated with at least one originating source and each routing list comprising a plurality of directory numbers;

receiving said call from said originating source;

selecting a routing list associated with said originating source from said plurality of routing lists; and

directing said call sequentially to the directory numbers on [according to] said routing list.

5. (Twice Amended) In a program module responsive to receiving communications for a personal number subscriber, a method for routing a communication to said subscriber, comprising the steps of:

maintaining a plurality of routing lists, each said routing list being associated with at least one originating party and at least one personal number and each routing list comprising a plurality of directory numbers;

receiving a communication directed to a personal number from an originating party;

selecting a routing list associated with said personal number and said originating party; and

routing said call sequentially to the directory numbers on [in accordance with] said routing list.

8. (Once Amended) The method of claim 5 [7], wherein said selecting a routing list step further comprises selecting said routing list from a group of routing lists identified for said originating party based on the day of the week said communication is received.

9. (Once Amended) The method of claim 5 [7], wherein said selecting a routing list step further comprises selecting said routing list from a group of routing lists identified for said originating party based on the time of day said communication is received.

10. (Once Amended) The method of claim 5 [7], wherein said selecting a routing list step further comprises selecting said routing list from a group of routing lists identified for said originating party based on the day of the week and the time of the day said communication is received.

11. (Twice Amended) A computer system for routing calls for a personal number subscriber based on the calling line identification of an originator, comprising:

a processing unit;

a memory storage device operative to store a plurality of routing lists for said personal number subscriber, each said routing list comprising a plurality of directory numbers;

a receiving interface device coupled to said processing unit for receiving calls;

a transmitting interface device coupled to said processing unit for placing calls;

said processing unit being operative to:

receive a call on said receiving interface device, said call being directed to said personal number subscriber;

detect a calling line identification for said originating party;

retrieve an associated routing list from said memory storage device for said calling line identification;

retrieve a default routing list from said memory storage device if said associated routing list does not exist; and

direct said call setup request sequentially to the directory numbers on [in accordance with] said routing list.

13. (Twice Amended) A computer-readable medium on which is stored a computer program for selecting a routing list and directing a call based on an identifying criteria, and a data file containing a plurality of routing lists for a called party, wherein each routing list comprises a plurality of directory numbers, said computer program comprising instructions which, when executed by a computer, perform the steps of:

receiving a communication for said called party;

obtaining said identifying criteria from said communication;

retrieving a routing list from said data file based on said identifying criteria; and

directing said communication sequentially to the directory numbers on [in accordance with] said routing list.

Please add new Claims 17 - 24 as follows:

17. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein said selecting a routing list step further comprises the steps of:

requesting said originating source to provide speech sample;

receiving said speech sample;

retrieving an associated routing list for said speech sample; and

retrieving a default routing list if said associated routing list does not exist.

18. (New) The method of claim 5, wherein said selecting a routing list step further comprises the steps of:

- requesting said originating party to enter a speech sample;
- receiving said speech sample;
- retrieving an associated routing list for said speech sample and said personal number; and
- retrieving a default routing list if said associated routing list does not exist.

19. (New) In an integrated computer telephony system including a call routing system, a method for routing a call based on the identity of an originating source of said call, comprising the steps of:

- maintaining a plurality of routing lists, each of said routing lists being associated with at least one originating source;
- receiving said call from said originating source;
- selecting a routing list associated with said originating source from said plurality of routing lists by
 - requesting said originating source to provide an identification code;
 - receiving said identification code;
 - retrieving an associated routing list for said identification code;
- and
 - retrieving a default routing list if said associated routing list does not exist; and
 - directing said call according to said routing list.

20 (New) In a program module responsive to receiving communications for a personal number subscriber, a method for routing a communication to said subscriber, comprising the steps of:

maintaining a plurality of routing lists, each said routing list being associated with at least one originating party;

receiving a communication directed to a personal number from an originating party;

selecting a routing list associated with said personal number and said originating party by

requesting said originating source to provide an identification code;

receiving said identification code;

retrieving an associated routing list for said identification code;

and

retrieving a default routing list if said associated routing list does not exist; and

routing said call in accordance with said routing list.

21. (New) In a program module responsive to receiving communications for a personal number subscriber, a method for routing a communication to said subscriber, comprising the steps of:

maintaining a plurality of routing lists, each said routing list being associated with at least one originating party;

receiving a communication directed to a personal number from an originating party;

selecting a routing list associated said originating party based on the time of the call; and

routing said call in accordance with said routing list.

22. (New) The method of claim 21, wherein said selecting a routing list step further comprises selecting said routing list based on the day of the week said communication is received.

23. (New) The method of claim 21, wherein said selecting a routing list step further comprises selecting said routing list based on the time of day said communication is received.

24. (New) The method of claim 21, wherein said selecting a routing list step further comprises selecting said routing list based on the day of the week and the time of the day said communication is received.

REMARKS

Claims 1-16 have been rejected by the Examiner. By the present amendment, Claims 1, 5, 8 - 11, and 13 have been amended. No claims have been cancelled. New Claims 17 - 24 are presented for entry. Consequently, upon entry of the present amendment, Claims 1 - 24 will be

pending in the present application. Reconsideration of the present patent application is respectfully requested in view of the appended remarks.

INFORMALITIES IN THE SPECIFICATION AND DRAWINGS

Applicants have made changes to properly reflect that Application Serial No. 07/936,384 was abandoned, and a continuation was filed as Application Serial No. 469,491, which issued as U.S. Patent No. 5,764,747. Applicants have also made changes to the specification to correct typographical and grammatical errors.

Applicants have amended FIG. 6 of the drawings with the addition of the label "602," as shown in red in the attached copy. This amendment to FIG. 6 is a typographical error, and the correction has support in the specification on page 17, line 28.

CLAIM REJECTIONS

Rejection of Claims 1-11 and 13-16 Under 35 U.S.C. 102(b)

Claims 1-11 and 13-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by *Morganstein* (U.S. Patent No. 5,029,196). Specifically, the Examiner stated that, with regards to Claim 1, *Morganstein* teaches a method for routing a call based on the identity of an originating source of the call, comprising the steps of maintaining a plurality of routing lists (FIG. 1, 54), each routing lists being associated with at least one originating source (FIG. 3, 82) and comprising a plurality of directory numbers (FIG. 3, 82, 84, 88, and 90); receiving the call from the originating source (any number 82 of Fig. 3); selecting a routing list associated with the

originating source from the plurality of routing lists (col. 5, lines 24-33 and lines 45-50); and directing the call according to the routing list (col. 5, lines 50-51).

Morganstein Fails to Disclose All Claim Limitations of Claims 1-11, and 13

Applicants submit that the *Morganstein* patent fails to teach the specific combination of elements recited by independent Claim 1 as amended. *Morganstein* does not sequentially route calls to a list of directory numbers on a routing list. Instead, the method of *Morganstein* only routes the incoming call to a single designated number for each incoming call event.

Morganstein discloses a method whereby a called party can designate one or more of the listed numbers from a "list of telephone numbers associated with potential calling parties" as important, and associate each telephone number in the list with "an indication of the intended disposition of the call." Col. 2, lines 15 – 25. Thus, *Morganstein's* invention relates to taking a number that is stored in a system (FIG. 3, col. 1 of the table) and associating that number with *one* destination number of the called party (Fig. 3, col. 2 of the table). That *one* destination number of the called party can be pre-programmed by the called party (See Fig. 4a, 136, and Fig. 4b). For example, the called party can specify that a calling party possessing the number "214-220-8287," as shown in 54 of FIG. 3, should be routed to "Ext. 222," as shown in FIG. 3. Thus, any "list" of *Morganstein* is a list of individual calling numbers, to be associated in a one-to-one correspondence with *one* specific number of the called party out of a list of possible numbers. A particular caller may be "directly connected" to the called party (col. 1, lines 23-24), connected to "voice store and forward facilities" (col. 1, lines 34-35), or routed to "an alternate destination, such as a secretary or a switchboard attendant" (col. 1, lines 40-42). For each call

event, the caller is directed to only one destination number. *Morganstein* does not disclose the step of directing a call “sequentially to the directory numbers on the routing list”, which is recited by amended Claim 1. The specification supports the language recited by Claim 1: A subscriber “provides routing lists;” page 7, lines 17-18. Each of the plurality of routing lists “contains various directory numbers that identify phone lines where the subscriber may be accessed.” Page 2, lines 22-23. “Calls placed to the called party’s number will be routed by the personal number system to the various directory numbers until either the subscriber is located or the list of destination numbers has been exhausted.” Page 2, lines 23-26. Because *Morganstein* does not disclose the “plurality of routing lists” or the “routing lists” that are claimed in Claim 1, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to withdraw the rejection of Claim 1.

Based on the remarks in the preceding paragraphs, Applicants respectfully submit that the Examiner’s rejection of Claims 2 - 13 should also be withdrawn.

***Morganstein* Fails to Disclose All Claim Limitations of Dependent Claims 3 and 7**

The Examiner rejected Claims 3 and 7, stating that *Morganstein* teaches the method wherein the selecting a routing list step further comprises the steps of: requesting the originating source to provide an identification code (col. 1, lines 41-45); receiving the identification code (col. 1, line 46); retrieving an associated routing list for the identification code (col. 2, lines 20-45); and retrieving a default routing list of the associated routing list does not exist (col. 2, lines 46-58). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Morganstein, col 1, lines 41-45, teaches features in a telecommunications system that processes incoming calls by first answering the call with a pre-recorded message that invites the

calling party to dial the *extension number* of the desired party. At col. 1, lines 46-55, *Morganstein* further discloses that after receiving the telephone number input by the calling party, the system prompts the calling party to verbally input *his or her name*. The call is then completed to the called party by announcing the recorded name or identity of the calling party to the called party.

Morganstein, does not, however, disclose the step of requesting the originating source of the call to provide a *code*. The caller's name is not used as a code in the *Morganstein* reference. The caller's name is only used as part of the announcement. Not having a code would allow *anyone* to dial the extension number of the called party and verbally input his or her name (or a telephone number that the caller knows that the called party has given priority to), whether that person is who they claim to be or not. This can lead to an unwanted party reaching the called party at an inopportune time. On the other hand, having a code that can be entered has several advantages. First, and most important, is that a code *is not line dependant*, and it is *not* geographically dependent. *Morganstein* teaches the ability to associate a calling party with a called number based on the calling line number, or its geographical location (col. 7, lines 46-53). Should the calling party in *Morganstein's* invention be calling from a remote location, such as a pay phone, the line would not be recognized, and the call would not be given the priority that was intended by the called party, or the priority given would be associated with a geography instead of a particular calling party. On the other hand, if the called party is allowed to enter a specific *code*, that party can be connected based on the priority intended by the called party. Further, a code will prevent a person who was not given a priority destination list from being able to reach the called party just by entering an extension that may be known to be given

priority. This is a drawback that *Morganstein* does not account for or disclose. *Morganstein* does not show, disclose, or suggest the use of a code as a means of identifying the calling party, which is what is recited by Claims 3 and 7. Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that the Examiner's rejection of Claims 3 and 7 should be withdrawn.

***Morganstein* Fails to Disclose All Claim Limitations of Claims 8-10**

The Examiner stated, regarding Claims 8- 10, that *Morganstein* further teaches the method wherein the selecting a routing list step further comprises the step of selecting the routing list from a group of routing lists identified for the originating party based on the day of the week or/and the time of the day the communication is received (col. 13, lines 15-18). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

The Examiner's citation, *Morganstein* col. 13, lines 15-18, reads "Indeed, the telephone user or programmer of the call processor can preselect destinations for various calling parties to optimize the user's time and efficiency." *Morganstein* does not, however, teach the ability to direct calls to the called party based on the time of the call, particularly, the time of the week, time of the day, or both. Claims 8 – 10 are directed to such. Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that the Examiner's rejection of Claims 8 – 10 should be withdrawn.

Rejection of Claim 12 Under 35 U.S.C. 103(a)

The Examiner Claim 12 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Morganstein* as applied to Claim 1 above, and further in view of *Eisdorfer et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 5,706,339). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

The Examiner Has Failed to Establish a *Prima Facie* Case of Obviousness.

According to MPEP Section 2142, a prima facie case of obviousness must set forth the following elements:

1. The examiner must show “some suggestion or motivation, either in the references themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art, to modify the reference or to combine reference teachings.”
2. The Examiner must show that there must be a “reasonable expectation of success.”
3. The Examiner must show that the cited references “teach or suggest all of the claim limitations.”

Where the Examiner does not produce a prima facie case of obviousness, the Applicant is under no obligation to submit evidence of nonobviousness. In the case at hand, Applicants respectfully submit that the Examiner has failed to show some suggestion or motivation to modify the cited references or to combine the teachings of the references to achieve the invention defined by Claim 12.

Nothing in the references themselves suggest that the two arts may be combined. Part of the invention of the present application involves discovery of the problem, even if the solution may have been obvious once the source of the problem is identified.

To begin with, *Morganstein* is directed to allowing a subscriber (the called party) of a telephone service to direct calls to any one of a list of numbers where the subscriber can be reached. These calls are directed to selected numbers based on the identification of the calling line, or the geography of the originating call. (col. 2, lines 15-19; col. 2, lines 50-55). However, *Morganstein* does not recognize the problem that results if the call is directed to the subscriber at

a certain number designated by the subscriber, but the subscriber is not answering. Neither does *Morganstein* suggest a solution to this problem.

Eisdorfer, on the other hand, focuses on routing numbers to a number of locations. The concern of *Eisdorfer* is that a subscriber should not have to be at one particular number in order to receive all calls (col. 1, lines 11-30). *Eisdorfer's* further concern is that a party that desires to reach a subscriber (or called party) is able to be routed through a sequence of numbers that the subscriber can be reached at (col. 1, lines 30-45). Yet another concern of *Eisdorfer* is that if a subscriber calls another number that belongs to him (for example, calling his house from his cellular phone), that the subscriber's originating call does not get routed to the current number he is dialing from (the cellular phone) (col. 1, line 45- col.2 line 4). Finally, *Eisdorfer* was concerned that a caller might reach a number on the routing list that would be disconnected. *Eisdorfer*, however, does not disclose or identify any problem in which a subscriber should prioritize calls from non-subscribers that he or she received based on 1) the identification of the calling line, or 2) a code that is to be entered by the caller, or 3) a geographic location the call is originating from, or 4) on the time of day or the day of the week.

Because neither reference identifies the problems that the present application is directed to solving, there was no suggestion or motivation to modify the cited references or to combine the teachings of the references to achieve the invention defined by Claim 12. Consequently, Applicants respectfully submit that Examiner's rejection of Claim 12 should be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

The foregoing is submitted as a full and complete response to the Office Action mailed August 17, 1999. Applicants thank the Examiner for the Examiner's consideration of these remarks. Applicants submit that the pending claims are patentable over the art of record and respectfully request allowance of these claims. If the Examiner believes that there are any issues that can be resolved by a telephone conference, an Examiner's amendment, or an in-person interview, please call Brenda Ozaki Holmes at (404) 949-2487.

Respectfully submitted,
JONES & ASKEW, LLP

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Brenda Ozaki Holmes".

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J&A File: 19260-0780

NEW CLAIMS

New Claims 17 and 18 are dependant claims that allow a call to be identified and routed based on the identification of a speech sample from a calling party. In the backgrounds of both the present application (page 4, lines 11-29) and *Morganstein* (col. 1, lines 47-55), there is described features of a telecommunications system that process incoming calls by first answering the call with a recorded message that prompts the calling party to verbally input his or her name, which is recorded. The call is then completed to the called party and the recorded name of the calling party is presented to the called party. The called party then decides whether to accept or reject the incoming call (Application page 4, lines 11-29) and *Morganstein* (col. 1, lines 47-55).

New dependant Claims 17 and 18 recite methods whereby the calling party's call is routed based on a speech sample that is provided by the calling party. New Claims 17 and 18 are supported in the specification of the present application on page 15, line 18 ("providing a speech sample"). Different from having the calling party provide a name, and then presenting the name to the called party, the processing by speech sample allows a calling party's identity to be determined based on the speech sample and routed accordingly to a destination list so that the called party does not need to respond at all. For this reason, Applicants respectfully submit that new Claim 17 and 18 should be allowed.

New Claims 19 – 24 incorporate the subject matter of Claims 3 and 7 – 10. Applicants respectfully ask that the Examiner refer to the arguments, which appear earlier in this response, that distinguish what is recited by these claims from the prior art.

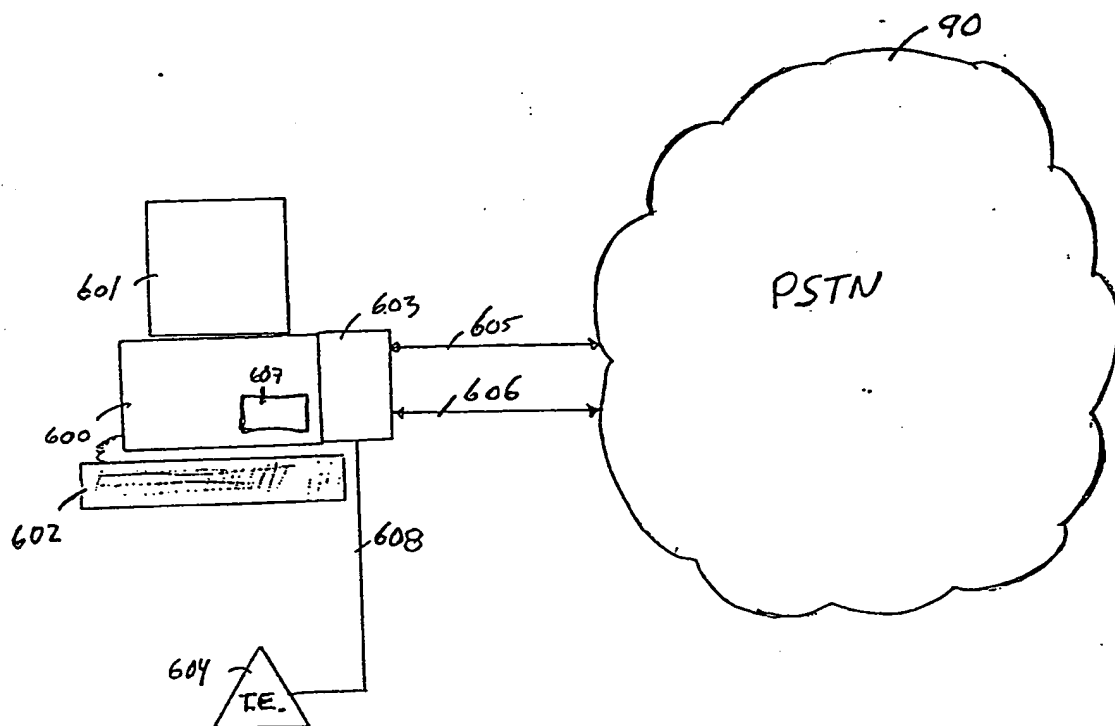


Fig. 6

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Patents

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)	
)	
HOLT et al.	)	Examiner: B. Tieu
)	
Serial No. 08/876,839)	
	)	Art Unit: 2742
Filed: June 16, 1997)	
)	
For: Method and Apparatus for)	
Routing Calls Based on the)	
Identification of the Calling)	
Party or Calling Line)	

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

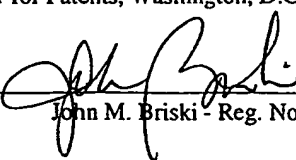
Please enter the following Preliminary Amendment and consider the accompanying remarks prior to examination of the above-identified patent application.

AMENDMENTS

In the Claims

Please amend the following claims as indicated by deleting the bracketed portions and by inserting the underlined portions:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on August 9, 2000.



John M. Briski - Reg. No. 44,562

1. (Three Times Amended) In an integrated computer telephony system including a call routing system, a method for routing a call based on the identity of an originating source of said call, comprising the steps of:

maintaining a plurality of routing lists for a telephony subscriber, each of said routing lists being associated with at least one originating source and each routing list comprising a plurality of directory numbers where the subscriber can be accessed, said directory numbers being in an order determined by the subscriber;

receiving said call from said originating source;

selecting a routing list associated with said originating source from said plurality of routing lists; and

directing said call sequentially to the directory numbers on said routing list.

2. (Once Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said selecting a routing list step further comprises the steps of:

detecting a directory number of said originating source;

retrieving an associated routing list for said originating source based on said directory number; and

retrieving a default routing list if said associated routing list does not exist.

3. (Once Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said selecting a routing list step further comprises the steps of:

requesting said originating source to provide an identification code;

receiving said identification code;

retrieving an associated routing list for said originating source based on said identification code; and

retrieving a default routing list if said associated routing list does not exist.

4. (Once Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said integrated computer telephony system provides a calling line identification service and said selecting a routing list step further comprises the steps of:

receiving a calling line identification for said originating party;

retrieving an associated routing list for said originating party based on said calling line identification; and

retrieving a default routing list if said associated routing list does not exist.

5. (Three Times Amended) In a program module responsive to receiving communications for a personal number subscriber, a method for routing a communication to said subscriber, comprising the steps of:

maintaining a plurality of routing lists for a telephony subscriber, each of said routing lists [list] being associated with at least one originating party and at least one personal number and comprising a plurality of directory numbers where the subscriber may be accessed, said directory numbers being in an order determined by the subscriber;

receiving a communication directed to a personal number from an originating party;

selecting a routing list associated with said personal number and said originating party; and

routing said call sequentially to the directory numbers on said routing list.

6. (Once amended) The method of claim 5, wherein said selecting a routing list step further comprises the steps of:

detecting a directory number for said originating party;
retrieving an associated routing list for said originating party based on said
directory number; and
retrieving a default routing list if said associated routing list does not exist.

7. (Once amended) The method of claim 5, wherein said selecting a routing list step further comprises the steps of:

requesting said originating party to enter an identification code;
receiving said identification code;
retrieving an associated routing list for said originating party based on said
identification code and said personal number; and
retrieving a default routing list if said associated routing list does not exist.

11. (Three Times Amended) A computer system for routing calls for a personal number subscriber based on the calling line identification of an originating party [originator], comprising:

a processing unit;
a memory storage device operative to store a plurality of routing lists for said personal number subscriber, each of said routing lists [list] comprising a plurality of directory numbers where the subscriber may be accessed, said directory numbers being in an order determined by the subscriber;

a receiving interface device coupled to said processing unit for receiving calls;

a transmitting interface device coupled to said processing unit for placing calls;

said processing unit being operative to:

receive a call on said receiving interface device, said call being directed to said personal number subscriber;

detect a calling line identification for said originating party;

retrieve an associated routing list from said memory storage device for said calling line identification;

retrieve a default routing list from said memory storage device if said associated routing list does not exist; and

direct said call setup request sequentially to the directory numbers on said routing list.

13. (Three Times Amended) A computer-readable medium on which is stored a computer program for selecting a routing list and directing a call based on an identifying criteria, and a data file containing a plurality of routing lists for a called party, wherein each of said routing lists [list] comprises a plurality of directory numbers where the subscriber can be accessed, said directory numbers being in an order determined by the subscriber, said computer program comprising instructions which, when executed by a computer, perform the steps of:

receiving a communication for said called party;

obtaining said identifying criteria from said communication;

retrieving a routing list from said data file based on said identifying criteria;
and
directing said communication sequentially to the directory numbers on said
routing list.

17. (Once Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said selecting a routing
list step further comprises the steps of:

requesting said originating source to provide a speech sample;
receiving said speech sample;
retrieving an associated routing list for said originating source based on
the speech sample; and
retrieving a default routing list if said associated routing list does not exist.

18. (Once Amended) The method of claim 5, wherein said selecting a routing
list step further comprises the steps of:

requesting said originating party to enter a speech sample;
receiving said speech sample;
retrieving an associated routing list for said originating party based on the
speech sample and said personal number; and
retrieving a default routing list if said associated routing list does not exist.

22. (Once Amended) The method of claim 1 [21], wherein said selecting a
routing list step further comprises selecting said routing list based on the day of the week said
communication is received.

23. (Once Amended) The method of claim 1 [21], wherein said selecting a routing list step further comprises selecting said routing list based on the time of day said communication is received.

24. (Once Amended) The method of claim 1 [21], wherein said selecting a routing list step further comprises selecting said routing list based on the day of the week and the time of the day said communication is received.

Please cancel claims 19, 20, and 21 without prejudice.

Please add the following new claims:

25. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein said selecting a routing list step further comprises the steps of:

detecting an area code associated with said originating source;

retrieving an associated routing list for said originating source based on the area code; and

retrieving a default routing list if said associated routing list does not exist.

26. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein said selecting a routing list step further comprises the steps of:

detecting an exchange associated with said originating source;

retrieving an associated routing list for said originating source based on said exchange; and

retrieving a default routing list if said associated routing list does not exist.

REMARKS

Claims 1-24 have been rejected by the Examiner. By the present preliminary amendment, claims 1-7, 11, 13, 17-18, 22-24 have been amended. Claims 19, 20, and 21 have been cancelled without prejudice. New claims 25 and 26 are presented for entry. Consequently, upon entry of the present amendment, claims 1-18 and 22-26 will be pending in the present application. Reconsideration of the present patent application is respectfully requested in view of the appended remarks.

CLAIM REJECTIONS

Rejection of claims 1-11 and 13-16 Under 35 U.S.C. 103(a)

The Examiner rejected claims 1-11 and 13-16 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Morganstein* (U.S. Patent No. 5,029,196) in view of *Brennan et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 5,329,578). Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the following remarks.

A *Prima Facie* Case of Obviousness has not been Established

Applicants submit that a *prima facie* case of obviousness has not been established. According to MPEP Section 2142, a *prima facie* case of obviousness must set forth the following elements:

1. The Examiner must show "some suggestion or motivation, either in the references themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art, to modify the reference or to combine reference teachings."

2. The Examiner must show that there must be a “reasonable expectation of success.”

3. The Examiner must show that the cited references “teach or suggest all of the claim limitations.”

- The cited references do not teach or suggest all of the claim elements.

Claim 1, as amended, recites “maintaining a plurality of lists for a telephony subscriber, each of said routing lists being associated with at least one originating source and each routing list comprising a plurality of directory numbers where the subscriber may be accessed, said directory numbers being in an order determined by the subscriber.”

The Examiner alleged that Fig. 1, element 54, which is a “look-up table” that “cross-references call identification numbers to destinations” anticipates the step of “maintaining a plurality of routing lists.” However, *Morganstein*, does not describe a system for “maintaining a plurality of lists for a telephony subscriber,” as recited by amended claim 1. *Morganstein* only maintains *one* (1) list for a subscriber, wherein the list is a “list of telephone numbers associated with potential calling parties.” Col. 2, lines 15 – 25. Each potential calling party is associated with only *one* number, whereas the method of claim 1 associates the originating source with a list comprising a plurality of directory numbers. Thus, *Morganstein* does not teach, suggest, or describe the claimed invention because *Morganstein* only describes a single list, whereas claim 1 recites a *plurality* of lists for each subscriber.

The Examiner also alleged that *Morganstein* Fig. 3, element 82 anticipates “each routing list being associated with at least one originating source.” *Morganstein* only describes one list being maintained for the subscriber, wherein each destination number on the list is associated

with an originating source. Col. 5, lines 24 – 33. *Morganstein* does not describe a plurality of lists wherein each list is associated with at least one originating source.

The Examiner alleged that *Morganstein* anticipates the step of “selecting a routing list associated with the originating source from the plurality of lists.” Col. 5, lines 24-33 and lines 45-50. *Morganstein* selects *one* number from the *one* list for call routing, based on the calling party’s number, which is entered by the calling party. Col. 7, lines 25-55. *Morganstein* does not describe selecting a list comprising a plurality of directory numbers, from a plurality of lists maintained for a subscriber, as recited by claim 1.

The Examiner admitted that *Morganstein* describes a routing list that comprises only one destination. However, the Examiner alleged that *Brennan* describes a list comprising a plurality of directory numbers and directing a call sequentially to the directory numbers on the routing list. However, *Brennan* does not describe the use of a plurality of lists, and there is no suggestion that a plurality of lists may be maintained for a particular subscriber.

- There is no suggestion or motivation to combine the teachings of *Morganstein* and *Brennan*

Applicants, in addition to the above remarks, further claim that there is no “suggestion or motivation, either in the references themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art, to modify the reference or to combine reference teachings,” as required by MPEP 2142. There is no suggestion or indication that the teachings of *Brennan* can be combined with any of the teachings of *Morganstein* to derive the present invention.

The present invention enables a subscriber to create a plurality of routing lists that correspond to a plurality of originating sources. The subscriber specifies the numbers that appear on each list, and the order in which the calls are routed to each number on the list. This enables the subscriber to decide what treatment to give each call. Each originating source may be associated with a different routing list. Additionally, once a routing list associated with the originating source has been selected, having a plurality of routing numbers on each list allows for an originating source to have a greater possibility of accessing the subscriber. The present invention thus provides for maximum flexibility in not only allowing subscribers to dispose of calls in a manner preferred by the subscriber, but also allowing the subscriber to determine the order of the routing of the call.

Morganstein is directed to allowing a subscriber (the called party) of a telephone service to direct calls to any one of a list of numbers where the subscriber can be reached. These calls are directed to selected numbers based on the identification of the calling line, or the geography of the originating call. Col. 2, lines 15-19; Col. 2, lines 50-55. However, *Morganstein* does not recognize the problem that results if the call is directed to the subscriber at a number designated by the subscriber, but the subscriber does not answer. Nor does *Morganstein* suggest a solution to this problem.

Brennan aspires to provide subscribers with incoming call management. Col. 1, lines 32-36. *Brennan* describes a "hunting feature" that allows a subscriber to list *up to three* locations by which the system is to attempt to contact him. Col. 10, lines 7-23. Thus, *Brennan* only describes or suggests one list for call routing of *all* incoming calls. *Brennan* also provides for features in which the *caller*, or originating source, may choose to route the call. Col. 12, lines

25-29. *Brennan* does not, however, suggest that each call is routed differently based on the identity or origin of the originating source. Furthermore, the failure of *Brennan* to describe a plurality of lists limits the subscriber's control as to the disposition calls directed to the subscriber.

Consequently, *Morganstein* and *Brennan* implicitly teach away from each other. First, neither one uses or suggests the use of a plurality of lists, or the advantages of having a plurality of lists. *Morganstein* has only one list, and *Brennan*'s hunt feature suggests one list comprising of up to three locations. *Morganstein* routes each call *differently*, based on the identity of the originating source, to *one* number on the list. Conversely, *Brennan*'s hunt feature routes all incoming calls *similarly*, each call being routed to a *plurality* (up to three) of numbers on the list. The fundamentally different way in which *Morganstein* and *Brennan* handle call routing implicitly teaches away from the combination of the two references.

Because both *Morganstein* and *Brennan* fail to recognize the problems that are addressed by the present invention, and because there is no suggestion in the references that any of the features of *Morganstein* and *Brennan* can be combined, Applicants respectfully submit that there is no *prima facie* case of obviousness.

Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that the preceding amendments and the foregoing remarks overcome the Examiner's rejection of claim 1 based on obviousness.

Because claims 2-11 and 13-16 include the aforementioned patentable features, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner's rejections of claims 2-11 and 13-16 be withdrawn. In addition, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 17-24 (including cancelled

claims 19-21) also include the aforementioned patentable features, and thus should be allowed by the Examiner.

***Morganstein* Fails to Disclose All Claim Limitations of Claims 8-10**

Regarding claims 8- 10, the Examiner stated that *Morganstein* teaches that the method wherein the selecting a routing list step further comprises the step of selecting the routing list from a group of routing lists identified for the originating party based on the day of the week or/and the time of the day the communication is received (col. 13, lines 15-18). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

The Examiner's citation, *Morganstein* col. 13, lines 15-18, reads "Indeed, the telephone user or programmer of the call processor can preselect destinations for various calling parties to optimize the user's time and efficiency." *Morganstein* does not, however, teach the ability to route calls to the called party based the time of the week, time of the day, in addition to the identity of the originating party, or both, as recited by claims 8 – 10. Thus, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner's rejection of claims 8 – 10 be withdrawn.

Rejection of claim 12 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a)

The Examiner rejected claim 12 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Morganstein* (U.S. Patent No. 5,029,196) in view of *Brennan et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 5,329,578), and further in view of *Eisdorfer et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 5,706,339).

Applicants submit that *Eisdorfer* does not teach or suggest a plurality of routing lists for a subscriber. Nor does *Eisdorfer* suggest that its teachings can be combined with any of the other references.

Eisdorfer focuses on routing numbers to a number of locations. *Eisdorfer* describes that a subscriber does not have to be at one particular number in order to receive all of the subscriber's calls (col. 1, lines 11-30). *Eisdorfer* describes that a calling is routed through a sequence of numbers where the subscriber can be reached (col. 1, lines 30-45). *Eisdorfer* further describes that if a subscriber calls another number that belongs to the subscriber (for example, calling the subscriber's house from the subscriber's cellular phone), that the subscriber's originating call does not get routed to the calling number he is dialing from (the cellular phone) (col. 1, line 45— col.2 line 4). Finally, *Eisdorfer* avoids routing the caller to numbers on the routing list that are disconnected.

Eisdorfer does not disclose the selection of a routing list based on the originating source of the call. Similar to *Brennan*, *Eisdorfer* discloses the *same* routing of *all* calls through a *plurality of numbers* on a routing list, avoiding disconnected numbers and the number the caller is dialing from. *Morganstein*, on the other hand, describes the *different* routing of *each* call based on the identity of the caller to *one* number associated with the originating call. The teachings of *Morganstein* and *Eisdorfer* (and *Brennan*) are fundamentally different such that they implicitly teach away from each other. Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that there is no case of obviousness, as there is no suggestion that the features of *Brennan* and *Eisdorfer* can be combined with *Morganstein* to derive the present invention of this application.

Because claim 12 includes the patentable features as recited in claim 1, claim 5, and claim 11, Applicants also respectfully submit that the Examiner's rejection of claim 12 should be withdrawn.

NEW CLAIMS

New claims 25 and 26 are dependant claims directed to a feature of the present invention that allows a routing list to be selected from a plurality of routing lists based on the area code and the exchange of the originating line. These claims are supported in the specification on page 16, lines 4-14.


The preceding arguments address only the arguments in the Official Action, and therefore may not address patentable aspects of the invention that were not addressed by the Examiner in the Official Action. The claims may include other elements that are not shown, taught, or suggested by the cited references. Accordingly, Applicants advance the preceding arguments in favor of patentability without prejudice to other bases of patentability.

CONCLUSION

Applicants thank the Examiner for the Examiner's consideration of this preliminary amendment and these remarks. Applicants submit that the pending claims are patentable over the art cited and respectfully request allowance of these claims. If the Examiner believes that there are any issues that can be resolved by a telephone conference, an Examiner's amendment, or an in-person interview, please call Brenda Ozaki Holmes at (404) 949-2487.

Respectfully submitted,

JONES & ASKEW, LLP



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BellSouth File No. 95041

Amendment as filed
April 30, 2001

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF: **Holt et al.**)
)
SERIAL NO.: **08/876,839**) **ART UNIT: 2642**
)
FILED: **June 16, 1997**) **EXAMINER: B. Tieu**
)
FOR: **METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR**)
 ROUTING CALLS BASED ON THE)
 IDENTIFICATION OF THE CALLING)
 PARTY OR CALLING LINE)

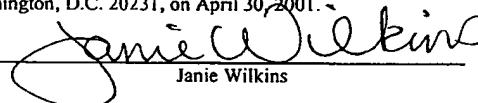
Attorney Docket No.: 42323/210856

Attorney File No.: 19260/0780

BS File No.: 95041

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on April 30, 2001.


Janie Wilkins

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

April 30, 2001

**AMENDMENT, RESPONSE AND PETITION FOR THREE MONTH
EXTENSION OF TIME**

Sir:

In response to the Office Action (hereinafter "the Action") mailed November 9, 2000 (Paper No. 16), please amend the above-referenced patent application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please rewrite claims 1, 4, 5, 11, 13 and 27 as follows:

1. (Four Times Amended) In an integrated computer telephony system including a call routing system, a method for routing a call based on the identity of an originating source of said call, comprising the steps of:

maintaining a plurality of routing lists for a telephony subscriber, each of said routing lists comprising a plurality of directory numbers where the subscriber can be reached, and for each of said routing lists:

associating each routing list with at least one originating source;

determining an order of said directory numbers;

receiving said call from a first originating source;

identifying said first originating source of said call;

selecting a routing list from said plurality of routing lists based on the identity of said first originating source; and

directing said call sequentially to the directory numbers on said routing list selected.

4. (Twice Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said integrated computer telephony system provides a calling line identification service and said selecting a routing list step further comprises the steps of:

receiving a calling line identification for said originating source;

retrieving an associated routing list for said originating source based on said calling line identification; and

retrieving a default routing list if said associated routing list does not exist.

5. (Four Times Amended) In a program module responsive to receiving communications for a personal number subscriber, a method for routing a communication to said subscriber, comprising the steps of:

maintaining a plurality of routing lists for a telephony subscriber, each of said routing lists comprising a plurality of directory numbers where the subscriber may be reached, and for each of said routing lists:

associating each routing list with at least one originating party;

determining an order of said directory numbers;

receiving a communication directed to a personal number from a first originating party;

selecting a routing list from said plurality of routing lists based on the identity of said first originating party; and

directing said call sequentially to the directory numbers on said routing list.

11. (Four Times Amended) A computer system for routing calls for a personal number subscriber based on the calling line identification of an originating party, comprising:

a processing unit;

a memory storage device operative to store a plurality of routing lists for said personal number subscriber, each of said routing lists comprising a plurality of directory numbers where the subscriber may be reached, said directory numbers being in an order determined by the subscriber;

a receiving interface device coupled to said processing unit for receiving calls;

a transmitting interface device coupled to said processing unit for placing calls;

said processing unit being operative to:
receive a call on said receiving interface device, said call being directed to said personal number subscriber;
detect a calling line identification for said originating party;
retrieve an associated routing list from said memory storage device for said calling line identification based on the identity of said originating party;
retrieve a default routing list from said memory storage device if said associated routing list does not exist; and
direct said call setup request sequentially to the directory numbers on said routing list.

13. (Four Times Amended) A computer-readable medium on which is stored a computer program for selecting a routing list and directing a call based on an identifying criteria, and a data file containing a plurality of routing lists for a called party, wherein each of said routing lists comprises a plurality of directory numbers where the subscriber can be reached, said directory numbers being in an order determined by the subscriber, said computer program comprising instructions which, when executed by a computer, perform the steps of:

receiving a communication for said called party;
obtaining said identifying criteria from said communication;
retrieving a routing list from said data file based on said identifying criteria;
and
directing said communication sequentially to the directory numbers on said routing list.

27. (New Claim) In an integrated computer telephony system including a call routing system, a method for routing a call based on the identity of an originating source of said call, comprising the steps of:

receiving said call from a first originating source;

identifying said first originating source of said call;

selecting a routing list from said plurality of routing lists based on the identity of said first originating source, each routing list associated with at least one originating source and comprising a plurality of directory numbers, placed in order, where a subscriber can be reached; and

directing said call sequentially to the directory numbers on said routing list.

REMARKS

I INTRODUCTION

This is in full and timely response to the Action mailed November 9, 2000. The Examiner has rejected claims 1-18 and 22-26. Claims 1, 4, 5, 11 and 13 have been amended. Further, claim 27 has been added. Upon entry of the present amendment, claims 1-18 and 22-27 will be pending in the present application. In view of the following remarks and amendments set forth above, reconsideration of the present patent application is respectfully requested.

II CLAIM OBJECTIONS

The Examiner objected to claims 1, 5, 11, and 13 by questioning whether the phrase "subscriber can be accessed" means that the "subscriber can be reached." Claims 1, 5, 11, and 13 have been amended to recite that the "subscriber can be reached," in accord with the Examiner's suggestion. Thus, Applicants request withdrawal of the objection.

III REJECTION UNDER 35 USC §112

The Examiner rejected claim 4 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which the applicant regards as the invention. Specifically, the Examiner rejected the claims arguing that the limitation "said originating party" lacks sufficient antecedent basis. Claim 4 has been amended to recite "said originating source." The amended claim has sufficient antecedent basis in independent claim 1, from which claim 4 depends. Thus, withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

IV. REJECTION UNDER 35 USC §103

The Examiner rejected claims 1-11, 13-16 and 22-26 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US Patent Number 5,029,196 to *Morganstein* in view of U.S. Patent Number 5,329,578 to *Brennan et al.* In response, Applicants have amended claim 1 to more closely claim the instant invention. Specifically, Applicants have added the steps of: "associating each routing list with at least one originating source," "determining an order of said directory numbers," for each routing list and "identifying said first originating source of said call." Even more importantly, Applicants further clarified the step directed to selecting a routing list so that claim is directed to selection "based on the identity of said first originating source." In view of these amendments, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the present patent application and submit that the rejections have been successfully traversed.

Applicants submit that a prima facie case of obviousness has not been established. According to MPEP §2142, a prima facie case of obviousness must set forth the following elements:

1. some suggestion or motivation, either in the references themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art, to modify the reference or to combine reference teachings;
2. a reasonable expectation of success; and
3. the prior art reference (or references when combined) must teach or suggest all the claim limitations.

First, Applicants submit that the cited references do not teach or suggest all of the claim elements. Amended claim 1 is directed to a method of directing an incoming call sequentially to the directory numbers on a routing list that has been selected from a plurality of routing lists based on the identity of the caller. Applicants submit that neither *Morganstein* nor *Brennan*, taken singularly or collectively, teach the elements of claim 1.

Specifically, *Morganstein* teaches associating a particular caller's phone number with a single phone number associated with a called party. Essentially, as discussed in the Interview on Wednesday, January 10, 2001, *Morganstein* teaches a one-to-one relationship between a caller's phone number and a phone number corresponding to the subscriber. Although, *Morganstein* describes a list, the list is merely a list of these one-to-one relationships. Thus, *Morganstein* does not teach, suggest, or describe the claimed invention because *Morganstein* only describes a single list and does not describe associating an incoming phone number with a routing list comprising multiple numbers where the subscriber could possibly be reached.

Moreover, *Brennan* does not teach the elements of claim 1 of the present application. Instead, *Brennan* teaches establishing a Subscriber Schedule, which is comprised of different time slots that contain the phone numbers where the subscriber could possibly be reached at various times of the day and week. Further, *Brennan* teaches directing incoming calls to the list of numbers contained within the time slots of the Subscriber Schedule based upon when the incoming call was received. However, *Brennan* fails to teach the step of directing incoming calls based upon the identity of the calling party. Instead, the method taught in *Brennan* directs all incoming calls to the same list of phone numbers regardless on the identity of the caller.

During the Interview on Wednesday, January 10, 2001, the Examiner argued that *Brennan* directs each call differently. Specifically, the Examiner argued that the incoming calls are directed differently based upon the treatment disclosed in Table 1.0 of *Brennan*. Applicants respectfully submit that the treatment disclosed in Table 1.0 of *Brennan* differs from the method disclosed in the present application. The method of *Brennan* associates various special treatments with different potential incoming calling numbers, as shown in Table 1.0 of *Brennan*. When a call is made by a party, the method of *Brennan* identifies an incoming call using Caller Line Identification (CLID) and grants the incoming call special

treatment based upon its association in Table 1.0. For example, a special treatment could be a system announcement where the caller does not wish to speak with the caller. Col 5, lines 8-9. Implicitly, *Brennan* defines the various special treatments as being used either to greet the incoming call with an announcement, to send the call directly to messaging or to allow the subscriber to only receive certain calls such as only priority and emergency calls. See *Brennan* col. 5, 8-15 and col. 12 lines 11-21. Thus, Table 1.0, which is an example of a Caller List, lists additional commands that the subscriber can give to the system. The "special treatment" of Table 1.0 does not direct the incoming call to different directory numbers where the caller can be reached. Rather, the "special treatment" feature is a list of commands that are used by the system to determine whether or not the call should be permitted to be routed pursuant to the Subscriber Schedule or whether the caller should be blocked from reaching the subscriber. Essentially, the Caller List feature provides the subscriber with a way of blocking calls from reaching the subscriber. The system will block certain incoming calls by stating that the subscriber is unavailable or forcing the call to a messaging system, while letting calls with "priority" or "emergency" commands by-pass the subscriber's temporary diversion of calls.

In contrast, the present invention, as recited in claim 1, directs incoming calls sequentially to a plurality of directory numbers where the subscriber can be reached. The directory numbers are located on a routing list that has been selected from a plurality of routing lists based upon the identity of the incoming call. In other words, each incoming call is directed to the directory numbers found on a routing list that has been assigned to that specific calling number by the subscriber. One of the largest distinctions between *Brennan* and the instant invention is that *Brennan* does not route incoming calls to a routing list, comprising a plurality of phone numbers where the subscriber can be reached, based upon the identity of the caller. Rather, *Brennan* routes all incoming calls to the **same list of phone numbers**. Even if a particular caller receives special treatment under Table 1.0 of *Brennan*,

that call is still routed to the **same list** of numbers as all other calls that are not blocked. The special treatment feature of *Brennan* only enables a caller having special treatment to have his call routed to the subscriber, whereas other incoming calls are blocked from reaching the subscriber. Thus, the elements of claim 1 are not taught by *Morganstein* or *Brennan*, or the combination thereof.

Second, Applicants further assert that there is no suggestion or motivation, either in the references themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art, to modify the references or to combine the teachings of *Morganstein* and *Brennan*. The present invention enables a system to direct an incoming phone call to a list of phone numbers where the subscriber can be reached based upon the originating source. Thus, the system directs incoming calls based upon the identity of the caller.

The system taught in *Morganstein*, on the other hand, directs an incoming phone number to a single phone number. Thus, the subscriber in *Morganstein* does not have the option to provide the system with a list of directory numbers that could be used to direct an incoming call.

Brennan teaches directing incoming calls to up to three different subscriber phone numbers based upon the time of day and the day of the week that the call is received. Further, *Brennan* grants special treatment to certain calls based upon the identity of the calling party. All incoming calls which are given special treatment are directed to the same list of phone numbers. The only difference being that the calls with special treatment have the ability to circumvent temporary blocks placed on the system by the subscriber, which would otherwise prevent the call from being directed to the subscriber. Thus, *Brennan* does not teach routing calls to a list of directory numbers where the subscriber can be reached based upon the identity of the caller.

It is apparent that the essential teaching of *Morganstein* is to direct calls to a single number based on the identity of the calling party. However, *Brennan* bases its routing

system on directing calls based upon the time of day and week that the call was received. Thus, the teachings of *Morganstein* and *Brennan* are fundamentally different in that they implicitly teach away from each other. Therefore, Applicants submit that there exists no suggestion or motivation to combine the teachings of *Morganstein* and *Brennan*. Thus, Applicants request the Examiner withdraw the rejection and allow claim 1 and those claims depending therefrom.

The Examiner rejected claims 5-7 and claim 13 by referencing the arguments set forth in the rejection of claim 1. In a similar fashion, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner review the arguments set forth above while reconsidering claims 5-7 and claim 13. Further, Applicants submit that claims 5-7, claim 13 and those claims depending therefrom are patentable and request that the Examiner withdraw the rejection.

The Examiner rejected claim 11 under 35 USC §103 under *Morganstein* in view of *Brennan*. Specifically, the Examiner argued that while *Morganstein* teaches a routing list comprising only one directory number, *Brennan* teaches a routing list comprising a plurality of directory numbers, as shown in Table 2.0.

In response, Applicants have amended claim 11 to further recite "retrieve an associated routing list from said memory storage device for said calling line identification based on the identity of said originating party." As set forth above, neither *Brennan* nor *Morganstein*, taken singularly or collectively, teach the step of retrieving a routing list from a plurality of routing lists based on the identity of said originating party, each routing list containing a plurality of directory numbers where the subscriber can be reached. Further, Applicants point out that Table 2.0 of *Brennan* provides phone numbers corresponding to the usual physical location of the phone corresponding to that number. See *Brennan*, col. 5, lines 61-65. Additionally, the table can store the ringing time at each device. See *Brennan*, col. 5, lines 65-67. Even so, *Brennan* fails to teach selecting a routing list based on the identity of the caller and directing the incoming call based on a routing list selected based upon the

caller's identity to a plurality of directory numbers where the subscriber can be reached. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the rejection and allow claim 11 and those claims depending therefrom.

V. NEW CLAIM

New claim 27 is directed to a method of directing incoming calls based upon the identity of the caller. Further, claim 27 recites directing an incoming call according to a plurality of directory numbers where the subscriber can be reached located on a routing list that has been associated with that particular calling party.

The preceding arguments address only the arguments in the Official Action, and therefore may not address patentable aspects of the invention that were not addressed by the Examiner in the Official Action. The claims may include other elements that are not shown, taught, or suggested by the cited references. Accordingly, Applicants advance the preceding arguments in favor of patentability without prejudice to other bases of patentability.

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

Please amend claims 1, 4, 5, 11 and 13 as follows:

1. (Four Times Amended) In an integrated computer telephony system including a call routing system, a method for routing a call based on the identity of an originating source of said call, comprising the steps of:

maintaining a plurality of routing lists for a telephony subscriber, each of said routing lists [being associated with at least one originating source and each routing list] comprising a plurality of directory numbers where the subscriber can be [accessed] reached, and for each of said routing lists: [said directory numbers being in an order determined by the subscriber;]

associating each routing list with at least one originating source;
determining an order of said directory numbers;
receiving said call from [said] a first originating source;
identifying said first originating source of said call;
selecting a routing list from said plurality of routing lists based on the identity
of said first originating source [associated with said originating source from said plurality of
routing lists]; and
directing said call sequentially to the directory numbers on said routing list.

4. (Twice Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said integrated computer telephony system provides a calling line identification service and said selecting a routing list step further comprises the steps of:

receiving a calling line identification for said originating [party] source;
retrieving an associated routing list for said originating [party] source
based on said calling line identification; and
retrieving a default routing list if said associated routing list does not exist.

5. (Four Times Amended) In a program module responsive to receiving communications for a personal number subscriber, a method for routing a communication to said subscriber, comprising the steps of:

maintaining a plurality of routing lists for a telephony subscriber, each of said routing lists [being associated with at least one originating source party and at least one personal number and] comprising a plurality of directory numbers where the subscriber may be [accessed] reached, [said directory numbers being in an order determined by the subscriber;] and for each of said routing lists:

associating each routing list with at least one originating source;

determining an order of said directory numbers;
receiving a communication directed to a personal number from [an] a first
originating party;
selecting a routing list from said plurality of routing lists based on the identity
of said first originating party [associated with said personal number and said originating
party]; and
directing [routing] said call sequentially to the directory numbers on said
routing list.

11. (Four Times Amended) A computer system for routing calls for a
personal number subscriber based on the calling line identification of an originating party,
comprising:
a processing unit;
a memory storage device operative to store a plurality of routing lists for said
personal number subscriber, each of said routing lists comprising a plurality of directory
numbers where the subscriber may be [accessed] reached, said directory numbers being in an
order determined by the subscriber;
a receiving interface device coupled to said processing unit for receiving calls;
a transmitting interface device coupled to said processing unit for placing
calls;
said processing unit being operative to:
receive a call on said receiving interface device, said call being directed to said
personal number subscriber;
detect a calling line identification for said originating party;
retrieve an associated routing list from said memory storage device for said
calling line identification based on the identity of said originating party;

retrieve a default routing list from said memory storage device if said associated routing list does not exist; and
direct said call setup request sequentially to the directory numbers on said routing list.

13. (Four Times Amended) A computer-readable medium on which is stored a computer program for selecting a routing list and directing a call based on an identifying criteria, and a data file containing a plurality of routing lists for a called party, wherein each of said routing lists comprises a plurality of directory numbers where the subscriber can be [accessed] reached, said directory numbers being in an order determined by the subscriber, said computer program comprising instructions which, when executed by a computer, perform the steps of:

receiving a communication for said called party;
obtaining said identifying criteria from said communication;
retrieving a routing list from said data file based on said identifying criteria;
and
directing said communication sequentially to the directory numbers on said routing list.

NEW CLAIM

Please add claim 27 as follows:

27. In an integrated computer telephony system including a call routing system, a method for routing a call based on the identity of an originating source of said call, comprising the steps of:

receiving said call from a first originating source;

identifying said first originating source of said call;

selecting a routing list from said plurality of routing lists based on the identity of said first originating source, each routing list associated with at least one originating source and comprising a plurality of directory numbers, placed in order, where a subscriber can be reached; and

directing said call sequentially to the directory numbers on said routing list.

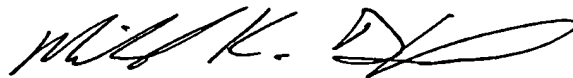
CONCLUSION

For at least the reasons set forth above, claims 1-18 and 22-27 define patentable subject matter. Applicants respectfully request allowance of the claims. The undersigned thanks the Examiner for extending courtesies in examination of this application.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further is necessary in order to place the application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Applicants' representative at the telephone number listed below.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.136, Applicants petition that the period for response to the Action, in connection with the above-referenced application, be extended for three months, to and including May 9, 2001. The appropriate fee in the amount of \$890.00 for this extension for a large entity under 37 C.F.R. 1.17(a)(3) accompanies this petition. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees which may be due for this Petition, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 11-0855.

Respectfully submitted,



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U.S. Serial No. 08/876,839
Filed: June 16, 1997
RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION, PAPER NO. 16

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Attorney Docket No.: 42323/210856
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BS File No.: 95041

Amendment as filed
November 1, 2001

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Attorney Docket No.: 42323/210856
Attorney File No.: 19260/0780
BS File No.: 95041

Janie Wilkins
Janie Wilkins

November 1, 2001

ATLIB01 125433.1

IN THE CLAIMS

Please rewrite claim 27 as follows:

27. (Amended) In an integrated computer telephony system including a call routing system, a method for routing a call based on the identity of an originating source of said call, comprising the steps of:

receiving said call from a first originating source;

identifying said first originating source of said call;

selecting a routing list from a plurality of routing lists based on the identity of said first originating source, each routing list associated with at least one originating source and comprising a plurality of directory numbers, placed in order, where a subscriber can be reached; and

directing said call sequentially to the directory numbers on said routing list.

REMARKS

I INTRODUCTION

This is a full and timely response to the Action mailed August 1, 2001. The Examiner has rejected claims 1-18 and 22-27. Claim 27 has been amended, and claims 1-18 and 22-27 remain pending in the present application. In view of the following remarks and amendments, reconsideration of the present patent application is respectfully requested.

II REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 112

The Examiner rejected claim 27 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which the applicant regards as the invention. Specifically, the Examiner rejected claim 27 arguing that the limitation "said plurality of routing lists" lacks sufficient antecedent basis. Claim 27 has been amended to recite "a plurality of routing lists." Thus, amended claim 27 is not indefinite, and withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

III CLAIMS 1-16 and 22-27 ARE NOVEL

The Examiner rejected claims 1-16 and 22-27 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,746,747 to *Yue et al.* The Examiner argued that regarding claims 1-7, 11, 13, 22-24, and 27, *Yue* discloses, in an integrated computer telephony system including a call routing system, a system and method for routing a call based on the identity of an originating source of said call, comprising the step of: maintaining a plurality of routing lists for a telephony subscriber, each of said routing lists comprising a plurality of directory numbers where the subscriber can be reached, and for each of said routing lists: associating each routing list with at least one originating source; and determining an order of said directory numbers. The Examiner further argued that *Yue*

discloses the steps of receiving said call from a first originating source; identifying said first originating source of said call; selecting a routing list from said plurality of routing lists based on the identity of said first originating source; and directing said call sequentially to the directory numbers on said routing list selected.

However, *Yue* does not disclose all of these elements. Specifically, *Yue* does not disclose selecting a routing list from said plurality of routing lists **based on the identity of said first originating source**. Rather, *Yue* discloses a personal number communications system that assigns a personal number to each subscriber and receives from each subscriber communication routing information in one or more hierarchical lists of destinations based on the time of day and day of week. However, *Yue* does not disclose selecting a routing list based on the identity of the originating source. In fact, no selection process is disclosed in *Yue*. Rather, *Yue* discloses routing **all** incoming calls to destinations described in a single hierarchical list for a given time period that are associated with a subscriber's personal number. At most, the system disclosed in *Yue* discloses a system composed of multiple hierarchical lists of destinations associated with different times of a day or days of a week. One list is associated with one time period so that all incoming calls are routed to the listed destinations in the same order. Therefore, *Yue* fails to disclose routing calls based upon based on the identity of an originating source. For at least this reason, *Yue* does not anticipate independent claims 1, 5, 11, 13, and 27, and those claims depending therefrom.

The Examiner argued that as regarding claims 8-10, *Yue* discloses selecting a routing list from a group of routing lists identified for the originating party based on the day of the week and/or the time of the day the communication is received. However, *Yue* does not disclose selecting a routing list from **a group of routing lists identified for the originating party**. Instead, *Yue* discloses a system that directs calls made to a personal number to various destinations that are listed within a hierarchical list. Further, *Yue* discloses that the personal number can be associated to a different hierarchical list for different times of a day

or different days of a week. However, *Yue* does not disclose a system for selecting a routing list from a group of routing lists identified **for the originating party**. Rather, the different hierarchical lists disclosed in *Yue* are identical for **every** originating party. Thus, *Yue* does not anticipate claims 8-10.

The Examiner argued that regarding claim 15, *Yue*, at column 8, lines 11-24, discloses a computer-readable medium wherein the identifying criteria comprises a DTMF code sequence and the step of obtaining an identifying criteria further comprises detecting the DTMF code sequences. However, the cited portion of *Yue* discloses a method where non-priority callers can enter a code and have their call handled as if it were a priority call. Thus, claim 15 is not anticipated by the cited portion of *Yue*.

IV. CLAIMS 17 AND 18 ARE NOVEL

The Examiner rejected claims 17 and 18 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Yue* in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,978,450 to *McAllister et al.* The Examiner argued that *Yue* discloses selecting a routing list based on a call identification telephone number. However, the Examiner admitted that *Yue* does not teach "a speech sample" that is used to identify a caller in order to route the call. The Examiner further argued that *McAllister* discloses a communication network comprising a peripheral that analyzes the speech of a caller in order to identify the caller.

However, 35 U.S.C. § 103(c) precludes *Yue* from being used to reject claims 17 and 18. Specifically, 35 U.S.C. § 103(c) provides that "subject matter developed by another person, which qualifies as prior art only under one or more of subsections (e), (f), and (g) of section 102 of this title, shall not preclude patentability under this section where the subject matter and the claimed invention were, at the time the invention was made, owned by the same person or subject to an obligation of assignment to the same person." At the time the invention was made, both inventors were subject to an obligation of assignment to the same

person, BellSouth Corporation as evidenced by the assignments filed with the PTO.

Therefore, reliance on *Yue* in rejecting claims 17 and 18 is improper and withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Furthermore, a prima facie case of obviousness has not been established. According to MPEP §2142, a prima facie case of obviousness must set forth the following elements:

1. some suggestion or motivation, either in the references themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art, to modify the reference or to combine reference teachings;
2. a reasonable expectation of success; and
3. the prior art reference (or references when combined) must teach or suggest all the claim limitations.

First, neither *McAllister* nor *Yue* teaches or suggests all of the claim elements. Specifically, neither reference discloses a system where an originating source provides a speech sample. *Yue* does not include any disclosure directed to a speech sample. Further, *McAllister* discloses a system for providing individualized telephone services to multiple subscribers using a common line based upon speech authentication of each **subscriber, not an originating source**. Moreover, neither reference discloses requesting an originating party to enter a speech sample, as claimed within claim 18. Thus, claims 17 and 18 are not obvious over *Yue* in view of *McAllister*.

Second, *McAllister* does not include any motivation to combine its teachings with *Yue*. In fact, the cited references teach away from each other. On one hand, *McAllister* discloses a voice recognition system for providing personalized services to multiple subscribers using a common line. On the other hand, *Yue* discloses a system for routing incoming calls to different destinations based upon the information supplied with the incoming call and according to a hierarchical list. Combining these two references would be illogical because the system disclosed in *McAllister* solves the problem of providing different

services to multiple subscribers using a common line. In contrast, the system disclosed in *Yue* solves a problem associated with a subscriber having a plurality of lines. Combination of these references would yield a system where a subscriber's speech is analyzed to determine what services are to be provided and a routing system for incoming calls. However, the combination lacks a system for routing incoming calls to various destinations based on **voice recognition of the originating source**. Therefore, claims 17 and 18 are not obvious under *Yue* in view of *McAllister*. Furthermore, claims 17 and 18 are patentable because they depend ultimately from allowable independent claims 1 and 4.

The preceding arguments address only the arguments in the Action, and therefore may not address patentable aspects of the invention that were not addressed by the Examiner in the Action. The claims may include other elements that are not shown, taught, or suggested by the cited references. Accordingly, the preceding arguments in favor of patentability are presented without prejudice to other bases of patentability.

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

Please amend claim 27 as follows:

27. (Amended) In an integrated computer telephony system including a call routing system, a method for routing a call based on the identity of an originating source of said call, comprising the steps of:

receiving said call from a first originating source;

identifying said first originating source of said call;

selecting a routing list from a [said] plurality of routing lists based on the identity of said first originating source, each routing list associated with at least one originating source and comprising a plurality of directory numbers, placed in order, where a subscriber can be reached; and

directing said call sequentially to the directory numbers on said routing list.

CONCLUSION

For at least the reasons set forth above, claims 1-18 and 22-27 define patentable subject matter, and issuance of a notice of allowance is respectfully requested. The undersigned thanks the Examiner for extending courtesies in examination of this application.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further is necessary in order to place the application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

No fees are believed due at this time. Nevertheless, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees which may be due for this Petition, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 11-0855.

Respectfully submitted,



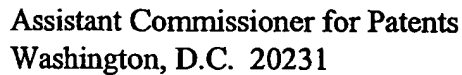
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Attorney File No.: 19260/0780
BS File No.: 95041

Amendment as filed
May 24, 2002

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Attorney Docket No.: 36968/210856
Attorney File No.: 19260/0780
BS File No.: 95041



May 24, 2002

Sir:

IN THE CLAIMS

ATLJB01 1324929.1

1. (Five Times Amended) In an integrated computer telephony system including a call routing system, a method for routing a call based on the identity of an originating source of said call, comprising:

creating a plurality of distinct routing lists for a telephony subscriber, each of said routing lists being associated with at least one originating source and comprising an ordered list of directory numbers where the subscriber can be reached;

wherein creating a plurality of distinct routing lists comprises:

receiving a first plurality of directory numbers for a subscriber;

receiving a first order for the directory numbers;

creating a first routing list;

receiving a first calling number;

associating the first calling number with the first routing list;

receiving a second plurality of directory numbers for a subscriber;

receiving a second order for the directory numbers;

creating a second routing list;

receiving a second calling number;

associating the second calling number with the second routing list;

receiving said call from a first originating source;

identifying said first originating source of said call;

selecting a routing list from said plurality of routing lists based on the identity of said first originating source, wherein selecting the routing list comprises matching the identity of the first originating source with a calling number associated with one of the plurality of distinct routing lists; and

directing said call sequentially to the directory numbers on said routing list selected.

5. (Five Times Amended) In a program module responsive to receiving communications for a personal number subscriber, a method for routing a communication to said subscriber, comprising:

creating a plurality of distinct routing lists for a telephony subscriber, each of said routing lists comprising an ordered list of directory numbers where the subscriber may be reached and being associated with at least one originating source;

wherein creating a plurality of distinct routing lists comprises:

receiving a first plurality of directory numbers for a subscriber;

receiving a first order for the directory numbers;

creating a first routing list;

receiving a first calling number;

associating the first calling number with the first routing list;

receiving a second plurality of directory numbers for a subscriber;

receiving a second order for the directory numbers;

creating a second routing list;

receiving a second calling number;

associating the second calling number with the second routing list;

identifying said first originating source of said call;

receiving a communication directed to a personal number from a first originating party;

selecting a routing list from said plurality of routing lists based on the identity of said first originating party, wherein selecting the routing list comprises matching the identity of the first originating source with a directory number associated with one of the plurality of distinct routing lists; and

directing said communication sequentially to the directory numbers on said routing list.

11. (Five Times Amended) A computer system for routing calls for a personal number subscriber based on the calling line identification of an originating party, comprising:

a processing unit;

a memory storage device operative to store a plurality of routing lists for said personal number subscriber by;

receiving a first plurality of directory numbers for a subscriber;

receiving a first order for the directory numbers;

creating a first routing list;

receiving a first calling number;

associating the first calling number with the first routing list;

receiving a second plurality of directory numbers for a subscriber;

receiving a second order for the directory numbers;

creating a second routing list;

receiving a second calling number; and

associating the second calling number with the second routing list;

a receiving interface device coupled to said processing unit for receiving calls;

a transmitting interface device coupled to said processing unit for placing calls;

said processing unit being operative to:

receive a call on said receiving interface device, said call being directed to said personal number subscriber;

detect a calling line identification for said originating party;

retrieve the first routing list associated with the first calling number from said memory storage device based on the identity of said originating party;

retrieve a default routing list from said memory storage device if the first routing list does not exist or the calling number is not associated with a routing list; and
direct said call sequentially to the directory numbers on said routing list.

13. (Five Times Amended) A computer-readable medium on which is stored a computer program for selecting a routing list and directing a call based on an identifying criteria, and a data file containing a plurality of routing lists for a called party, wherein each of said routing lists comprises a plurality of directory numbers where the subscriber can be reached, said directory numbers being in an order determined by the subscriber, said computer program comprising instructions which, when executed by a computer, perform the steps of:

creating a plurality of distinct routing lists for a telephony subscriber, each of said routing lists comprising an ordered list of directory numbers where the subscriber can be reached and being associated with at least one originating source;

wherein creating a plurality of distinct routing lists comprises:

- receiving a first plurality of directory numbers for a subscriber;
- receiving a first order for the directory numbers;
- creating a first routing list;
- receiving a first calling number;
- associating the first calling number with the first routing list;
- receiving a second plurality of directory numbers for a subscriber;
- receiving a second order for the directory numbers;
- creating a second routing list;
- receiving a second calling number; and
- associating the second calling number with the second routing list;

receiving a communication for said called party;

obtaining said identifying criteria from said communication;
retrieving a routing list from said data file based on said identifying criteria; and
directing said communication sequentially to the directory numbers listed on said
routing list.

Please delete claim 27 without prejudice.

REMARKS

I INTRODUCTION

A continued prosecution application ("CPA") was filed on January 31, 2002. In early February 2002, the Examiner scheduled an in-person interview to be conducted March 5, 2002. However, the Examiner issued an office action on February 24, 2002 before conducting the interview and discussing possible claim amendments. Thus, the claim amendments were not placed before the Examiner before issuance of the February 24, 2002 office action.

Regardless, this Amendment and Response is a full and timely response to the Action mailed February 24, 2002. The Examiner has rejected claims 1-18 and 22-27. Claims 1, 5, 11 and 13 have been amended, and claim 27 has been canceled without prejudice. Claims 1-18 and 22-26 remain pending in this application. In view of the following remarks and amendments, reconsideration of the present patent application is respectfully requested.

II CLAIMS 1-16 AND 22-27 ARE NOVEL

The Examiner rejected claims 1-16 and 22-27 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,746,747 to *Yue et al.* The Examiner argued that regarding claims 1-7, 11, 13, 22-24, and 27, *Yue* discloses, in an integrated computer telephony system including a call routing system, a system and method for routing a call based on the identity of an originating source of said call, comprising the steps of: maintaining a plurality of routing lists for a telephony subscriber, each of said routing lists comprising a plurality of directory numbers where the subscriber can be reached, and for each of said routing lists: associating each routing list with at least one originating source; and determining an order of said directory numbers. The Examiner further argued that *Yue* discloses the steps of receiving said call from a first originating source; identifying said first

originating source of said call; selecting a routing list from said plurality of routing lists based on the identity of said first originating source; and directing said call sequentially to the directory numbers on said routing list selected.

Claim 27 has been canceled without prejudice, and claims 1, 5, 11 and 13 have been amended to more specifically claim the invention as discussed during the in-person interview and described in the Interview Summary. Specifically, these claims have been amended to change the step of maintaining a database to "creating a plurality of distinct routing lists for a telephony subscriber, each of said routing lists comprising an ordered list of directory numbers where the subscriber can be reached and being associated with at least one originating source." These claims further define the step of creating a plurality of routing lists as including "receiving a first plurality of directory numbers for a subscriber; receiving a first order for the directory numbers; creating a first routing list; receiving a first calling number; associating the first calling number with the first routing list; receiving a second plurality of directory numbers for a subscriber; receiving a second order for the directory numbers; creating a second routing list; receiving a second calling number; and associating the second calling number with the second routing list."

In contrast, *Yue* does not disclose a system capable of creating a plurality of distinct routing lists. At most, *Yue* discloses a system at column 8, second paragraph that "provides for the identification of priority callers making calls from non-priority telephone numbers" and a system where "the subscriber has the option of overriding the destination list and designating a particular destination for priority callers only." *Yue* does not disclose a system capable of creating a plurality of routing lists by receiving a plurality of directory numbers for each routing list, placing them in a particular order and associating at least one calling number with each routing list created, selecting one of the routing lists based on the identity of the caller and routing the call sequentially to the directory numbers on the list. For at least

these reasons, claims 1, 5, 11, 13 and those claims depending therefrom are patentable over *Yue*.

The Examiner argued that regarding claim 15, *Yue*, at column 8, lines 11-24, discloses a computer-readable medium wherein the identifying criteria comprises a DTMF code sequence and the step of obtaining an identifying criteria further comprises detecting the DTMF code sequences. However, the cited portion of *Yue* discloses a method where non-priority callers can enter a code and have their call handled as if it were a priority call. Thus, claim 15 is not anticipated by the cited portion of *Yue* and is allowable.

IV. CLAIMS 17 AND 18 ARE NOVEL

The Examiner rejected claims 17 and 18 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Yue* in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,978,450 to *McAllister et al.* The Examiner argued that *Yue* discloses selecting a routing list based on a call identification telephone number. However, the Examiner admitted that *Yue* does not teach "a speech sample" that is used to identify a caller in order to route the call. The Examiner further argued that *McAllister* discloses a communication network comprising a peripheral that analyzes the speech of a caller in order to identify the caller.

However, 35 U.S.C. § 103(c) precludes *Yue* from being used to reject claims 17 and 18. Specifically, 35 U.S.C. § 103(c) provides that "subject matter developed by another person, which qualifies as prior art only under one or more of subsections (e), (f), and (g) of section 102 of this title, shall not preclude patentability under this section where the subject matter and the claimed invention were, at the time the invention was made, owned by the same person or subject to an obligation of assignment to the same person." At the time the invention was made, both inventors were subject to an obligation of assignment to the same entity, BellSouth Corporation, as evidenced by the assignments filed with the PTO.

Therefore, reliance on *Yue* in rejecting claims 17 and 18 is improper and withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Furthermore, a prima facie case of obviousness has not been established. According to MPEP §2142, a prima facie case of obviousness must set forth the following elements:

1. some suggestion or motivation, either in the references themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art, to modify the reference or to combine reference teachings;
2. a reasonable expectation of success; and
3. the prior art reference (or references when combined) must teach or suggest all the claim limitations.

First, neither *McAllister* nor *Yue* teaches or suggests all of the claim elements. Specifically, neither reference discloses a system where an originating source provides a speech sample. *Yue* does not include any disclosure directed to a speech sample. Further, *McAllister* discloses a system for providing individualized telephone services to multiple subscribers using a common line based upon speech authentication of each **subscriber, not an originating source**. Moreover, neither reference discloses requesting an originating party to enter a speech sample, as claimed within claim 18. Thus, claims 17 and 18 are not obvious over *Yue* in view of *McAllister*.

Second, *McAllister* does not include any motivation to combine its teachings with *Yue*. In fact, the cited references teach away from each other. On one hand, *McAllister* discloses a voice recognition system for providing personalized services to multiple subscribers using a common line. On the other hand, *Yue* discloses a system for routing incoming calls to different destinations based upon the information supplied with the incoming call and according to a hierarchical list. Combining these two references would be illogical because the system disclosed in *McAllister* solves the problem of providing different services to multiple subscribers using a common line. In contrast, the system disclosed in

Yue solves a problem associated with a subscriber having a plurality of lines. Combination of these references would yield a system where a subscriber's speech is analyzed to determine what services are to be provided and a routing system for incoming calls. However, the combination lacks a system for routing incoming calls to various destinations based on **voice recognition of the originating source**. Therefore, claims 17 and 18 are not obvious under *Yue* in view of *McAllister*. Furthermore, claims 17 and 18 are patentable because they depend ultimately from allowable independent claims 1 and 4.

The preceding arguments address only the arguments in the Action, and therefore may not address patentable aspects of the invention that were not addressed by the Examiner in the Action. The claims may include other elements that are not shown, taught, or suggested by the cited references. Accordingly, the preceding arguments in favor of patentability are presented without prejudice to other bases of patentability.

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

AMENDMENTS IN THE CLAIMS

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.121(c), the following versions of the claims as rewritten by the foregoing amendment show all the changes made relative to the previous versions of the claims.

Please rewrite claims 1, 5, 11 and 13 as follows:

1. (Five Times Amended) In an integrated computer telephony system including a call routing system, a method for routing a call based on the identity of an originating source of said call, comprising [the steps of]:

[maintaining] creating a plurality of distinct routing lists for a telephony subscriber, each of said routing lists being associated with at least one originating source and comprising an ordered list of directory numbers [a plurality of directory numbers] where the subscriber can be reached [, for each of said routing lists:

associating each routing list with at least one originating source;
determining an order of said directory numbers];

wherein creating a plurality of distinct routing lists comprises:

receiving a first plurality of directory numbers for a subscriber;

receiving a first order for the directory numbers;

creating a first routing list;

receiving a first calling number;

associating the first calling number with the first routing list;

receiving a second plurality of directory numbers for a subscriber;

receiving a second order for the directory numbers;

creating a second routing list;
receiving a second calling number;
associating the second calling number with the second routing list;
receiving said call from a first originating source;
identifying said first originating source of said call;
selecting a routing list from said plurality of routing lists based on the identity of said first originating source, wherein selecting the routing list comprises matching the identity of the first originating source with a calling number associated with one of the plurality of distinct routing lists; and
directing said call sequentially to the directory numbers on said routing list selected.

5. (Five Times Amended) In a program module responsive to receiving communications for a personal number subscriber, a method for routing a communication to said subscriber, comprising [the steps of]:

[maintaining] creating a plurality of distinct routing lists for a telephony subscriber, each of said routing lists comprising an ordered list of directory numbers [a plurality of directory numbers] where the subscriber may be reached [,] and being associated with at least one originating source [for each of said routing lists:

associating each routing list with at least one originating party;
determining an order of said directory numbers];

wherein creating a plurality of distinct routing lists comprises:

receiving a first plurality of directory numbers for a subscriber;
receiving a first order for the directory numbers;
creating a first routing list;
receiving a first calling number;
associating the first calling number with the first routing list;

receiving a second plurality of directory numbers for a subscriber;
receiving a second order for the directory numbers;
creating a second routing list;
receiving a second calling number;
associating the second calling number with the second routing list;
identifying said first originating source of said call;
receiving a communication directed to a personal number from a first originating party;
selecting a routing list from said plurality of routing lists based on the identity of said first originating party, wherein selecting the routing list comprises matching the identity of the first originating source with a directory number associated with one of the plurality of distinct routing lists; and
directing said [call] communication sequentially to the directory numbers on said routing list.

11. (Five Times Amended) A computer system for routing calls for a personal number subscriber based on the calling line identification of an originating party, comprising:

a processing unit;
a memory storage device operative to store a plurality of routing lists for said personal number subscriber by;

receiving a first plurality of directory numbers for a subscriber;
receiving a first order for the directory numbers;
creating a first routing list;
receiving a first calling number;
associating the first calling number with the first routing list;

receiving a second plurality of directory numbers for a subscriber;
receiving a second order for the directory numbers;
creating a second routing list;
receiving a second calling number; and
associating the second calling number with the second routing list; [, each of
said routing lists comprising a plurality of directory numbers where the subscriber may be
reached, said directory numbers being in an order determined by the subscriber;]
a receiving interface device coupled to said processing unit for receiving calls;
a transmitting interface device coupled to said processing unit for placing calls;
said processing unit being operative to:
 receive a call on said receiving interface device, said call being directed to said
personal number subscriber;
 detect a calling line identification for said originating party;
 retrieve the first routing list associated with the first calling number [an
associated routing list] from said memory storage device [for said calling line identification]
based on the identity of said originating party;
 retrieve a default routing list from said memory storage device if the first [said
associated] routing list does not exist or the calling number is not associated with a routing
list; and
 direct said call [setup request] sequentially to the directory numbers on said
routing list.

13. (Five Times Amended) A computer-readable medium on which is stored
a computer program for selecting a routing list and directing a call based on an identifying
criteria, and a data file containing a plurality of routing lists for a called party, wherein each
of said routing lists comprises a plurality of directory numbers where the subscriber can be

reached, said directory numbers being in an order determined by the subscriber, said computer program comprising instructions which, when executed by a computer, perform the steps of:

creating a plurality of distinct routing lists for a telephony subscriber, each of said routing lists comprising an ordered list of directory numbers where the subscriber can be reached and being associated with at least one originating source;

wherein creating a plurality of distinct routing lists comprises:

receiving a first plurality of directory numbers for a subscriber;

receiving a first order for the directory numbers;

creating a first routing list;

receiving a first calling number;

associating the first calling number with the first routing list;

receiving a second plurality of directory numbers for a subscriber;

receiving a second order for the directory numbers;

creating a second routing list;

receiving a second calling number; and

associating the second calling number with the second routing list;

receiving a communication for said called party;

obtaining said identifying criteria from said communication;

retrieving a routing list from said data file based on said identifying criteria; and

directing said communication sequentially to the directory numbers listed on said routing list.

Please delete claim 27 without prejudice.

CONCLUSION

For at least the reasons set forth above, claims 1-18 and 22-26 define patentable subject matter, and issuance of a notice of allowance is respectfully requested. The undersigned thanks the Examiner for granting an in-person interview on March 5, 2002 and extending courtesies in examination of this application.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further is necessary in order to place the application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

No fees are believed due at this time. Nevertheless, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees which may be due for this Petition, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 11-0855.

Respectfully submitted,



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Attorney File No.: 19260/0780
BS File No.: 95041

Amendment as filed
December 4, 2002

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF:	Holt et al.)	
)	
SERIAL NO.:	08/876,839	)	ART UNIT: 2642
)	
FILED:	June 16, 1997	)	EXAMINER: B. Tieu
)	
FOR:	METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR)	
	ROUTING CALLS BASED ON THE)	
	IDENTIFICATION OF THE CALLING)	
	PARTY OR CALLING LINE)	

AMENDMENT TO ACCOMPANY REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION

Sir:

In response to the Office Action (hereinafter "the Action") mailed September 10, 2002, please enter the following amendments and reconsider this application in view of the appended remarks. A Request for Continued Examination accompanies this response.

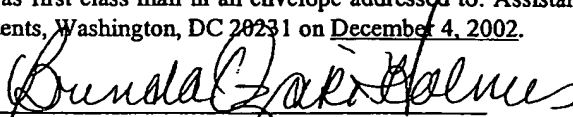
AMENDMENT

IN THE CLAIMS

Please rewrite claims 1-7, 11-13 and 17-18 as follows:

1. (Six Times Amended) In an integrated computer telephony system including a call routing system, a method for routing a call based on the identity of an originating source of said call, comprising:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231 on December 4, 2002.


Brenda Ozaki Holmes - Reg. No. 40,339

creating a plurality of distinct routing lists for a telephony subscriber, each of said routing lists being associated with at least one originating source and comprising an ordered list of directory numbers where the subscriber can be reached;

wherein creating said plurality of distinct routing lists comprises:

receiving a first plurality of directory numbers for said subscriber;

receiving a first order for the directory numbers;

creating a first routing list;

receiving a first calling number;

associating the first calling number with the first routing list;

receiving a second plurality of directory numbers for said subscriber;

receiving a second order for the directory numbers;

creating a second routing list;

receiving a second calling number;

associating the second calling number with the second routing list;

receiving said call from an originating source;

identifying said originating source of said call;

selecting a routing list from said plurality of routing lists based on the identity of said originating source, wherein selecting the routing list comprises matching the identity of the originating source with a calling number associated with one of the plurality of distinct routing lists; and

directing said call sequentially to the directory numbers on said routing list selected.

2. (Twice Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said selecting a routing list step further comprises:

retrieving a default routing list if the identity of the originating source does not match any of the calling numbers associated with the routing lists.

3. (Twice Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein identifying said originating source of said call further comprises:

requesting said originating source to provide an identification code; and
receiving said identification code.

4. (Thrice Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said integrated computer telephony system provides a calling line identification service and identifying said originating source of said call further comprises:

receiving a calling line identification for said originating source; and
using the calling line identification to identify the originating source.

5. (Six Times Amended) In a program module responsive to receiving communications for a personal number subscriber, a method for routing a communication to said subscriber, comprising:

creating a plurality of distinct routing lists for a telephony subscriber, each of said routing lists comprising an ordered list of directory numbers where the subscriber may be reached and being associated with at least one originating source ;

wherein creating said plurality of distinct routing lists comprises:

receiving a first plurality of directory numbers for said subscriber;
receiving a first order for the directory numbers;
creating a first routing list;
receiving a first calling number;
associating the first calling number with the first routing list;
receiving a second plurality of directory numbers for said subscriber;
receiving a second order for the directory numbers;
creating a second routing list;
receiving a second calling number;

associating the second calling number with the second routing list;
receiving a communication directed to a personal number from an originating party;
identifying said originating party of said communication;
selecting a routing list from said plurality of routing lists based on the identity of said originating party, wherein selecting the routing list comprises matching the identity of the originating party with a directory number associated with one of the plurality of distinct routing lists; and
directing said communication sequentially to the directory numbers on said routing list.

6. (Twice Amended) The method of claim 5, wherein said selecting a routing list step further comprises:

retrieving a default routing list if the identity of the originating party does not match any of the calling numbers associated with the routing lists.

7. (Twice Amended) The method of claim 5, wherein identifying said originating party of said communication further comprises:

requesting said originating party to enter an identification code; and
receiving said identification code.

11. (Six Times Amended) A computer system for routing calls for a personal number subscriber based on the calling line identification of an originating party, comprising:

a processing unit;
a memory storage device operative to store a plurality of routing lists for said personal number subscriber by:
receiving a first plurality of directory numbers for said subscriber;
receiving a first order for the directory numbers;
creating a first routing list;

receiving a first calling number;
associating the first calling number with the first routing list;
receiving a second plurality of directory numbers for said subscriber;
receiving a second order for the directory numbers;
creating a second routing list;
receiving a second calling number; and
associating the second calling number with the second routing list;
a receiving interface device coupled to said processing unit for receiving calls;
a transmitting interface device coupled to said processing unit for placing calls;
said processing unit being operative to:

receive a call on said receiving interface device from an originating party, said call being directed to said personal number subscriber;

detect a calling line identification for said originating party;

retrieve a routing list associated with the calling line identification from said memory storage device based on the identity of said originating party;

retrieve a default routing list from said memory storage device if the associated routing list does not exist or the calling number is not associated with a routing list; and

direct said call sequentially to the directory numbers on said routing list.

12. (Once Amended) The computer system of claim 11, wherein said processing unit directs said call sequentially to the directory numbers on said retrieved routing list by:

(a) selecting a first directory number from said routing list;

(b) routing said call to said first directory number;

(c) receiving communication disposition information from said first directory number; and

(d) if said communication disposition indicates said retrieved routing step failed, selecting a next directory number from said routing list and repeating steps (b)-(d) at said next directory number.

13. (Six Times Amended) A computer-readable medium on which is stored a computer program for selecting a routing list and directing a call based on an identifying criteria, and a data file containing a plurality of routing lists for a called party, wherein each of said routing lists comprises a plurality of directory numbers where the subscriber can be reached, said directory numbers being in an order determined by the subscriber, said computer program comprising instructions which, when executed by a computer, perform the steps of:

creating a plurality of distinct routing lists for a telephony subscriber, each of said routing lists comprising an ordered list of directory numbers where the subscriber can be reached and being associated with at least one originating source;

wherein creating said plurality of distinct routing lists comprises:

receiving a first plurality of directory numbers for said subscriber;

receiving a first order for the directory numbers;

creating a first routing list;

receiving a first calling number;

associating the first calling number with the first routing list;

receiving a second plurality of directory numbers for said subscriber;

receiving a second order for the directory numbers;

creating a second routing list;

receiving a second calling number; and

associating the second calling number with the second routing list;

receiving a communication for said called party;

obtaining said identifying criteria from said communication;

retrieving a routing list from said data file based on said identifying criteria; and

directing said communication sequentially to the directory numbers listed on said routing list.

17. (Twice Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein identifying said originating source of said call further comprises:

requesting said originating source to provide a speech sample; and
receiving said speech sample.

18. (Twice Amended) The method of claim 5, wherein identifying said originating party of said communications further comprises:

requesting said originating party to enter a speech sample; and
receiving said speech sample.

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

AMENDMENTS IN THE CLAIMS

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.121(c), the following versions of the claims as rewritten by the foregoing amendment show all the changes made relative to the previous versions of the claims.

Please rewrite claims 1-7, 11-13 and 17-18 as follows:

1. (Six Times Amended) In an integrated computer telephony system including a call routing system, a method for routing a call based on the identity of an originating source of said call, comprising:

creating a plurality of distinct routing lists for a telephony subscriber, each of said routing lists being associated with at least one originating source and comprising an ordered list of directory numbers where the subscriber can be reached;

wherein creating [a] said plurality of distinct routing lists comprises:

receiving a first plurality of directory numbers for [a] said subscriber;

receiving a first order for the directory numbers;

creating a first routing list;

receiving a first calling number;

associating the first calling number with the first routing list;

receiving a second plurality of directory numbers for [a] said subscriber;

receiving a second order for the directory numbers;

creating a second routing list;

receiving a second calling number;

associating the second calling number with the second routing list;

receiving said call from [a first] an originating source;

identifying said [first] originating source of said call;

selecting a routing list from said plurality of routing lists based on the identity of said [first] originating source, wherein selecting the routing list comprises matching the identity of the [first] originating source with a calling number associated with one of the plurality of distinct routing lists; and

directing said call sequentially to the directory numbers on said routing list selected.

2. (Twice Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said selecting a routing list step further comprises [the steps of]:

[detecting a directory number of said originating source;

retrieving an associated routing list for said originating source based on said directory number; and]

retrieving a default routing list if [said associated routing list does not exist] the identity of the originating source does not match any of the calling numbers associated with the routing lists.

3. (Twice Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein [said selecting a routing list step] identifying said originating source of said call further comprises [the steps of]:

requesting said originating source to provide an identification code; and

receiving said identification code[;

retrieving an associated routing list for said originating source based on said identification code; and

retrieving a default routing list if said associated routing list does not exist].

4. (Thrice Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said integrated computer telephony system provides a calling line identification service and [said selecting a routing list step] identifying said originating source of said call further comprises [the steps of]:

receiving a calling line identification for said originating source; and

using the calling line identification to identify the originating source.

[retrieving an associated routing list for said originating source based on said calling line identification; and

retrieving a default routing list if said associated routing list does not exist.]

5. (Six Times Amended) In a program module responsive to receiving communications for a personal number subscriber, a method for routing a communication to said subscriber, comprising:

creating a plurality of distinct routing lists for a telephony subscriber, each of said routing lists comprising an ordered list of directory numbers where the subscriber may be reached and being associated with at least one originating source ;

wherein creating [a] said plurality of distinct routing lists comprises:

receiving a first plurality of directory numbers for [a] said subscriber;

receiving a first order for the directory numbers;

creating a first routing list;

receiving a first calling number;

associating the first calling number with the first routing list;

receiving a second plurality of directory numbers for [a] said subscriber;

receiving a second order for the directory numbers;

creating a second routing list;

receiving a second calling number;

associating the second calling number with the second routing list;

[identifying said first originating source of said call;]

receiving a communication directed to a personal number from [a first] an originating party;

identifying said originating party of said communication;

selecting a routing list from said plurality of routing lists based on the identity of said [first] originating party, wherein selecting the routing list comprises matching the identity of the [first] originating [source] party with a directory number associated with one of the plurality of distinct routing lists; and

directing said communication sequentially to the directory numbers on said routing list.

6. (Twice Amended) The method of claim 5, wherein said selecting a routing list step further comprises [the steps of]:

[detecting a directory number for said originating party;

retrieving an associated routing list for said originating party based on said directory number; and]

retrieving a default routing list if [said associated routing list does not exist] the identity of the originating party does not match any of the calling numbers associated with the routing lists.

7. (Twice Amended) The method of claim 5, wherein [said selecting a routing list step] identifying said originating party of said communication further comprises [the steps of]:

requesting said originating party to enter an identification code; and

receiving said identification code;

retrieving an associated routing list for said originating party based on said identification code and said personal number; and

retrieving a default routing list if said associated routing list does not exist].

11. (Six Times Amended) A computer system for routing calls for a personal number subscriber based on the calling line identification of an originating party, comprising:

a processing unit;

a memory storage device operative to store a plurality of routing lists for said personal number subscriber by[;] :

- receiving a first plurality of directory numbers for [a] said subscriber;
- receiving a first order for the directory numbers;
- creating a first routing list;
- receiving a first calling number;
- associating the first calling number with the first routing list;
- receiving a second plurality of directory numbers for [a] said subscriber;
- receiving a second order for the directory numbers;
- creating a second routing list;
- receiving a second calling number; and

- associating the second calling number with the second routing list;

a receiving interface device coupled to said processing unit for receiving calls;

a transmitting interface device coupled to said processing unit for placing calls;

said processing unit being operative to:

- receive a call on said receiving interface device from an originating party, said call being directed to said personal number subscriber;

- detect a calling line identification for said originating party;

- retrieve the first routing list associated with the first calling number from said memory storage device if the calling line identification corresponds to said first calling number;

- retrieve a default routing list from said memory storage device if the calling number is not associated with one of the routing lists; and

- direct said call sequentially to the directory numbers on said retrieved routing list.

12. (Once Amended) The computer system of claim 11, wherein said processing unit directs said call [setup request] sequentially to the directory numbers on said retrieved routing list by:

- (a) selecting a first directory number from said routing list;
- (b) routing said call to said first directory number;
- (c) receiving communication disposition information from said first directory number; and
- (d) if said communication disposition indicates said retrieved routing step failed, selecting a next directory number from said routing list and repeating steps (b)-(d) at said next directory number.

13. (Six Times Amended) A computer-readable medium on which is stored a computer program for selecting a routing list and directing a call based on an identifying criteria, and a data file containing a plurality of routing lists for a called party, wherein each of said routing lists comprises a plurality of directory numbers where the subscriber can be reached, said directory numbers being in an order determined by the subscriber, said computer program comprising instructions which, when executed by a computer, perform the steps of:

creating a plurality of distinct routing lists for a telephony subscriber, each of said routing lists comprising an ordered list of directory numbers where the subscriber can be reached and being associated with at least one originating source;

wherein creating [a] said plurality of distinct routing lists comprises:

- receiving a first plurality of directory numbers for [a] said subscriber;
- receiving a first order for the directory numbers;
- creating a first routing list;
- receiving a first calling number;
- associating the first calling number with the first routing list;
- receiving a second plurality of directory numbers for [a] said subscriber;
- receiving a second order for the directory numbers;
- creating a second routing list;
- receiving a second calling number; and

associating the second calling number with the second routing list;
receiving a communication for said called party;
obtaining said identifying criteria from said communication;
retrieving a routing list from said data file based on said identifying criteria; and
directing said communication sequentially to the directory numbers listed on said routing list.

17. (Twice Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein [said selecting a routing list step] identifying said originating source of said call further comprises [the steps of]:
requesting said originating source to provide a speech sample; and
receiving said speech sample[;
retrieving an associated routing list for said originating source based on the speech sample; and
retrieving a default routing list if said associated routing list does not exist].

18. (Twice Amended) The method of claim 5, wherein [said selecting a routing list step] identifying said originating party of said communications further comprises [the steps of]:
requesting said originating party to enter a speech sample; and
receiving said speech sample[;
retrieving an associated routing list for said originating party based on the speech sample and said personal number; and
retrieving a default routing list if said associated routing list does not exist].

REMARKS

I. INTRODUCTION

The Applicant and the undersigned attorney thank Examiner Benny Quoc Tieu for the Examiner's careful review of this patent application. Reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendment and the following remarks which are responsive to the Action mailed September 10, 2002. In the Action, the Examiner objected to claims 1-18 and 22-26, and rejected claims 1-16 and 22-26. Claims 17 and 18 were indicated as allowable if rewritten in independent form. Claims 1-7, 11-13 and 17-18 have been amended. Claims 1-18 and 22-26 remain pending in this application.

II. CLAIM OBJECTIONS

The Examiner objected to claims 1, 5, 11 and 13 on the ground that these claims contain informalities such as "a plurality" rather than "said plurality", and "a subscriber" rather than "said subscriber." The Examiner objected to all dependent claims because they depend from claims 1, 5, 11 or 13. Applicant submits that all independent claims have been amended to correct such informalities. Further, the Examiner advised Applicant to consider all dependent claims and make appropriate corrections because the limitations in the dependent claims may no longer match the amended independent claims. Any necessary amendments have been made to the dependent claims. These claim amendments are not submitted to further distinguish the recited invention over the prior art of record. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the objections to these claims.

III. CLAIM REJECTIONS – 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

The Examiner rejected claims 1-16 and 22-26 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,746,747 to *Yue et al.* ("*Yue*"). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

The Examiner alleged that *Yue* teaches, in an integrated computer telephony system including a call routing system, a system and method for routing a call based on the identity of an originating source of said call, comprising the steps of:

maintaining a plurality of routing lists for a telephony subscriber, each of said routing lists comprising a plurality of directory numbers where the subscriber can be reached (Abstract), and for each of said routing lists:

associating each routing list with at least one originating source (column 7, lines 9-11);

determining an order of said directory numbers (column 7, lines 4-6);

receiving said call from a first originating source (column 10, lines 24-27);

identifying said first originating source of said call (column 10, lines 27-54);

selecting a routing list from said plurality of routing lists based on the identity of said first originating source (column 3, lines 16-20); and

directing said call sequentially to the directory numbers on said routing list selected (column 40-57).

Applicant respectfully submits that the cited sections of *Yue* describe creating a number of hierarchical destination lists based on the time of the day and day of the week (Abstract and column 7, line 4-6). Each of the routing lists described by *Yue* is created for all callers for a specific time/day. Thus, there is no teaching or suggestion in *Yue* to associate different routing lists with different originating sources.

The cited sections of *Yue* also describe overriding the destination lists with an alternative destination for all callers or only selected (priority) callers (column 7, lines 9-11). If the override applies to all callers, then all callers are routed to the override destination. If the override only applies to selected (priority) callers, then only the priority callers are routed to the override destination. The non-priority callers are routed to the default destination. Column 11, lines 1-12. The override destination is not a list, but a single destination, such as a particular telephone number. The default or final destination is a destination specified by the subscriber and is used if the subscriber cannot be reached or refuses the communication. Column 7, lines 30-34.

The Examiner alleged that *Yue* differs from the claimed invention in that *Yue* does not have a plurality of ordered numbers in each list, but simply a destination number. The Examiner also alleged that it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art to apply a forwarding feature to *Yue* if the destination number is busy or not answered. However, the Examiner's allegation is unsupported. In fact, *Yue* teaches away from the use of call forwarding. *Yue* describes the shortcomings of call forwarding in the Background section. *See e.g.*, Column 1, line 58-Column 2, line 15. *Yue* describes a personal number communication system that obviates the need for a call forwarding system. Thus, there is no motivation to combine the personal number system of *Yue* with a call forwarding system, as alleged by the Examiner.

The present invention, as recited in claims 1, 5, 11 and 13, comprises creating or storing a plurality of distinct routing lists for a telephony subscriber, each of said lists having a plurality of directory numbers and each of said routing lists being associated with at least one originating source. Creating or storing the plurality of distinct routing lists comprises receiving a first plurality of directory numbers for the subscriber; receiving a first order for the directory numbers; creating a first routing list; receiving a first calling number; associating the first calling number with the first routing list; receiving a second plurality of directory numbers for the subscriber; receiving a second order for the directory numbers; creating a second routing list; receiving a second calling number; associating the second calling number with the second routing list. The present invention provides seamless access to a subscriber in an efficient manner and provides advantages that *Yue* does not provide. "The ability to route calls based on the identification of the calling party or calling line is advantageous because a subscriber can (a) limit interruptions due to personal calls; (b) reduce the amount of hold time required for business calls by eliminating routing locations where the subscriber would not be found during business hours; (c) give priority service to important calls; and (d) give restrictive service to unwanted calls." Specification, p. 5, lines 16-23.

Although *Yue* describes a number of destination lists, the destination lists are not associated with a calling number. The destination lists are used to route all calls, regardless of calling number. The lists are associated with a time of day/day of week. Different lists are used for different times of day or day of week. The different lists are not for different calling numbers.

Moreover, the list of priority callers described by *Yue* is not associated with a destination list. The list of priority callers (if used) is associated with only a single override destination. Because creating or storing a plurality of distinct routing lists for a telephony subscriber such that each of said routing lists is associated with at least one originating source is not taught or suggested by *Yue*, claims 1, 5, 11, and 13 are not obvious over *Yue*. Therefore, claims 1, 5, 11, and 13 are patentable over *Yue*.

Claim 1 recites selecting a routing list from said plurality of routing lists based on the identity of said originating source and directing said call sequentially to the directory numbers on said routing list selected. *Yue* does not describe selecting a routing list from a plurality of routing lists where each routing list is associated with a calling number. Even if the Examiner contends that the override destination is associated with the priority callers, the override destination is a single destination. The override destination does not teach "directing said call sequentially to the directory number on said routing list selected," because there is only a single override destination. Thus, *Yue* does not describe that a call can be directed sequentially to a plurality of numbers in a routing list that is associated with a calling number, as recited by claim 1.

Claims 5, 11 and 13 also require directing a call/communication sequentially to the directory numbers on said routing list where the routing lists are associated with a calling number. As described above, *Yue* does not describe a plurality of routing lists, each routing list having a plurality of directory numbers and being associated with a calling number. Nor does *Yue* describe directing a call sequentially to the directory numbers on such a routing list.

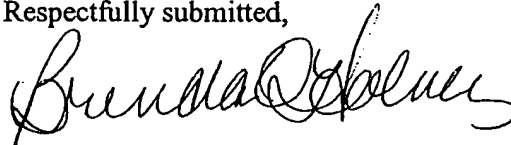
Claims 2-4, 6-10, 12, 14-18, 22-26 depend from independent claims 1, 5, 11, and 13. The remarks made above in support of the independent claims are equally applicable to distinguish the dependent claims from the cited reference.

CONCLUSION

The foregoing is submitted as a full and complete response to the Office Action mailed September 10, 2002. Still, the Official Action may contain other arguments that are not directly addressed by this response due to the fact that they are rendered moot in light of the preceding arguments in favor of patentability. Hence, failure of this response to directly address an argument raised in the Official Action should not be taken as an indication that the argument has merit. Furthermore, the claims of the present patent application may include other elements, not discussed in this response, that are not shown, taught, or suggested by the cited art. Accordingly, the preceding arguments in favor of patentability are advanced without prejudice to other bases of patentability.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the pending claims are patentable over the cited references and therefore, a notice of allowance is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that there are any issues that can be resolved by a telephone conference, or that there are any informalities that can be corrected by an Examiner's amendment, please call Brenda O. Holmes at (404) 685-6799.

Respectfully submitted,



Brenda O. Holmes
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BS File No.: 95041

Amendment as filed
August 8, 2003

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of:	)	Group Art Unit: 2642
)	
Holt, et al.	)	Examiner: Tieu, Benny Quoc
)	
Serial No.: 08/876,839	)	Docket No. 190251-1270
)	
Filed: June 16, 1997)	

For: **METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR ROUTING CALLS BASED ON IDENTIFICATION OF THE CALLING PARTY OR CALLING LINE**

AMENDMENT

Mail Stop 313(c)
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

In regard to the above-referenced application, the Applicant submits the following preliminary amendments and remarks to be respectively entered and considered prior to examination.

It is not believed that extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required, beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, in the event that additional extensions of time are necessary to allow consideration of this paper, such extensions are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), and any fees required therefor (including fees for net addition of claims) are hereby authorized to be charged to Deposit Account No. 20-0778.

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Previously Presented) In an integrated computer telephony system including a call routing system, a method for routing a call based on the identity of an originating source of said call, comprising:

creating a plurality of distinct routing lists for a telephony subscriber, each of said routing lists being associated with at least one originating source and comprising an ordered list of directory numbers where the subscriber can be reached;

wherein creating said plurality of distinct routing lists comprises:

receiving a first plurality of directory numbers for said subscriber;

receiving a first order for the directory numbers;

creating a first routing list;

receiving a first calling number;

associating the first calling number with the first routing list;

receiving a second plurality of directory numbers for said subscriber;

receiving a second order for the directory numbers;

creating a second routing list;

receiving a second calling number;

associating the second calling number with the second routing list;

receiving said call from an originating source;

identifying said originating source of said call;

selecting a routing list from said plurality of routing lists based on the identity of said originating source, wherein selecting the routing list comprises matching the identity of the originating source with a calling number associated with one of the plurality of distinct routing lists;
and

directing said call sequentially to the directory numbers on said routing list selected.

2. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said selecting a routing list step further comprises:

retrieving a default routing list if the identity of the originating source does not match any of the calling numbers associated with the routing lists.

3. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein identifying said originating source of said call further comprises:

requesting said originating source to provide an identification code; and
receiving said identification code.

4. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said integrated computer telephony system provides a calling line identification service and identifying said originating source of said call further comprises:

receiving a calling line identification for said originating source; and
using the calling line identification to identify the originating source.

5. (Previously Presented) In a program module responsive to receiving communications for a personal number subscriber, a method for routing a communication to said subscriber, comprising:

creating a plurality of distinct routing lists for a telephony subscriber, each of said routing lists comprising an ordered list of directory numbers where the subscriber may be reached and being associated with at least one originating source;

wherein creating said plurality of distinct routing lists comprises:

receiving a first plurality of directory numbers for said subscriber;

receiving a first order for the directory numbers;

creating a first routing list;

receiving a first calling number;

associating the first calling number with the first routing list;

receiving a second plurality of directory numbers for said subscriber;

receiving a second order for the directory numbers;

creating a second routing list;

receiving a second calling number;

associating the second calling number with the second routing list;

receiving a communication directed to a personal number from an originating party;

identifying said originating party of said communication;

selecting a routing list from said plurality of routing lists based on the identify of said originating party, wherein selecting the routing list comprises matching the identify of the originating party with a directory number associated with one of the plurality of distinct routing lists; and

directing said communication sequentially to the directory numbers on said routing list.

6. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 5, wherein said selecting a routing list step further comprises:

retrieving a default routing list if the identity of the originating party does not match any of the calling numbers associated with the routing lists.

7. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 5, wherein identifying said originating party of said communication further comprises:

requesting said originating party to enter an identification code; and
receiving an identification code.

8. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 5, wherein said selecting a routing list step further comprises selecting said routing list from a group of routing lists identified for said originating party based on the day of the week said communication is received.

9. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 5, wherein said selecting a routing list step further comprises selecting said routing list from a group of routing lists identified for said originating party based on the time of day said communication is received.

10. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 5, wherein said selecting a routing list step further comprises selecting said routing list from a group of routing lists identified for said originating party based on the day of the week and the time of the day said communication is received.

11. (Previously Presented) A computer system for routing calls for a personal number subscriber based on the calling line identification of an originating party, comprising:

a processing unit;

a memory storage device operative to store a plurality of routing lists for said personal number subscriber by:

receiving a first plurality of directory numbers for said subscriber;

receiving a first order for the directory numbers;

creating a first routing list;

receiving a first calling number;

associating the first calling number with the first routing list;

receiving a second plurality of directory numbers for said subscriber;

receiving a second order for the directory numbers;

creating a second routing list;

receiving a second calling number; and

associating the second calling number with the second routing list;

a receiving interface device coupled to said processing unit for receiving calls;

a transmitting interface device coupled to said processing unit for placing calls;

said processing unit being operative to:

receiving a call on said receiving interface device from an originating party, said call being directed to said personal number subscriber;

detect a calling line identification for said originating party;

retrieve the first routing list associated with the first calling number from said memory storage device if the calling line identification corresponds to said first calling number;

retrieve a default routing list from said memory storage device if the calling number is not associated with one of the routing lists; and

direct said call sequentially to the directory numbers on said retrieved routing list.

12. (Previously Presented) The computer system of claim 11, wherein said processing unit directs said call sequentially to the directory numbers on said retrieved routing list by:

- (a) selecting a first directory number from said routing list;
- (b) routing said call to said first directory number;
- (c) receiving communication disposition information from said first directory number; and
- (d) if said communication disposition indicates said retrieved routing step failed, selecting a next directory number from said routing list and repeating steps (b)-(d) at said next directory number.

13. (Previously Presented) A computer-readable medium on which is stored a computer program for selecting a routing list and directing a call based on an identifying criteria, and a data file containing a plurality of routing lists for a called party, wherein each of said routing lists comprises a plurality of directory numbers where the subscriber can be reached, said directory numbers being in an order determined by the subscriber, said computer program comprising instructions which, when executed by a computer, perform the steps of:

creating a plurality of distinct routing lists for a telephony subscriber, each of said routing lists comprising an ordered list of directory numbers where the subscriber can be reached and being associated with at least one originating source;

wherein creating said plurality of distinct routing lists comprises:

receiving a first plurality of directory numbers for said subscriber;

receiving a first order for the directory numbers;

creating a first routing list;

receiving a first calling number;

associating the first calling number with the first routing list;

receiving a second plurality of directory numbers for said subscriber;

receiving a second order for the directory numbers;

creating a second routing list;

receiving a second calling number; and

associating the second calling number with the second routing list;

receiving a communication for said called party;

obtaining said identifying criteria from said communication;

retrieving a routing list from said data file based on said identifying criteria; and

directing said communication sequentially to the directory numbers listed on said routing list.

14. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium recited in claim 13, wherein said identifying criteria comprises a calling line identification message and said step of obtaining an identifying criteria further comprises receiving said calling line identification message.

15. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium recited in claim 13, wherein said identifying criteria comprises a dual tone multi-frequency code sequence and said step of obtaining an identifying criteria further comprises detecting said dual tone multi-frequency code sequences.

16. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium recited in claim 13, wherein said identifying criteria comprises a dual tone multi-frequency code sequence and said step of obtaining identifying criteria further comprises the steps of:

providing keypad menu selection options to said called party; and
receiving a dual tone multi-frequency signal corresponding to a keypad menu selection from said called party.

17. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein identifying said originating source of said call further comprises:

requesting said originating source to provide a speech sample; and
receiving said speech sample.

18. (Previously Presented) the method of claim 5, wherein identifying said originating party of said communications further comprises:

requesting said originating party to enter a speech sample; and
receiving said speech sample.

19. (Cancelled)

20. (Cancelled)

21. (Cancelled)

22. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said selecting a routing list step further comprises selecting said routing list based on the day of the week said communication is received.

23. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said selecting a routing list step further comprises selecting said routing list based on the time of day said communication is received.

24. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said selecting a routing list step further comprises selecting said routing list based on the day of the week and the time of the day said communication is received.

25. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said selecting a routing list step further comprises the steps of:

- detecting an area code associated with said originating source;
- retrieving an associated routing list for said originating source based on the area code; and
- retrieving a default routing list if said associating routing list does not exist.

26. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said selecting a routing list step further comprises the steps of:

- detecting an exchange associated with said originating source;
- retrieving an associated routing list for said originating source based on said exchange; and
- retrieving a default routing list if said associated routing list does not exist.

27. (Cancelled)

28. (New) In an integrated computer telephony system including a call routing system, a method for routing a call, the method comprising the steps of:

maintaining a plurality of routing lists for a telephony subscriber, each of the routing lists being associated with at least one originating source and comprising an ordered list of directory numbers where the subscriber can be reached;

receiving a call from an originating source;

requesting that the originating source provide identifying information;

receiving from the originating source identifying information;

selecting a particular routing list from the plurality of routing lists based at least in part upon the received identifying information; and

directing the call sequentially to the directory numbers on the particular routing list.

29. (New) In an integrated computer telephony system including a call routing system, a method for routing a call, the method comprising the steps of:

maintaining a plurality of routing lists for a telephony subscriber of a private branch exchange coupled to a public switched telephone network, each of the routing lists being associated with at least one originating source and comprising an ordered list of directory numbers where the subscriber can be reached;

receiving a call from an originating source;

determining whether the call is external or internal to the private branch exchange;

selecting a particular routing list from the plurality of routing lists based at least in part upon the determination of whether the call is external or internal to the private branch exchange; and

directing the call sequentially to the directory numbers on the particular routing list.

30. (New) In an integrated computer telephony system including a call routing system, a method for routing a call, the method comprising the steps of:

maintaining a plurality of routing lists for a telephony subscriber, each of the routing lists being associated with at least one originating source and comprising an ordered list of directory numbers where the subscriber can be reached;

receiving a call from an originating source;

determining whether the call requires special processing;

responsive to determining the call does not require special processing, further including the steps of:

providing the originating source with keypad menu selection options;

receiving from the originating source a dual tone multi-frequency signal corresponding to a keypad menu selection;

selecting a particular routing list from the plurality of routing lists based at least in part upon the received signal; and

directing the call sequentially to the directory numbers on the particular routing list.

REMARKS

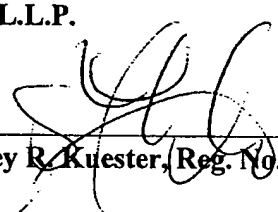
Upon entry of the foregoing amendments, Applicants have added new claims 28 - 30. Applicants believe that the new claims are patentable, and therefore, Applicants deserve the protection of the new claims 28 - 30. It is believed that the foregoing amendments and additions add no new matter to the present application.

Favorable action in regard to the application is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

**THOMAS, KAYDEN, HORSTEMEYER
& RISLEY, L.L.P.**

By: _____


Jeffrey R. Kuester, Reg. No.: 34,367

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Amendment as filed
April 4, 2005

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of:	)	Group Art Unit: 2642
)	
Holt, et al.	)	Confirmation No.: 5436
)	
Serial No.: 08/876,839	)	Examiner: Tieu, Benny Quoc
)	
Filed: June 16, 1997	)	Docket No. 190251-1270

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR ROUTING CALLS BASED ON IDENTIFICATION OF THE CALLING PARTY OR CALLING LINE

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

The non-final Office Action mailed by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on December 2, 2004 (Part of Paper No. 20041124) has been carefully considered. In response thereto, please enter the following amendment and consider the following remarks.

It is not believed that extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required, beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, in the event that additional extensions of time are necessary to allow consideration of this paper, such extensions are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), and any fees required therefor (including fees for net addition of claims) are hereby authorized to be charged to Deposit Account No. 20-0778.

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Previously Presented) In an integrated computer telephony system including a call routing system, a method for routing a call based on the identity of an originating source of said call, comprising:

creating a plurality of distinct routing lists for a telephony subscriber, each of said routing lists being associated with at least one originating source and comprising an ordered list of directory numbers where the subscriber can be reached;

wherein creating said plurality of distinct routing lists comprises:

receiving a first plurality of directory numbers for said subscriber;

receiving a first order for the directory numbers;

creating a first routing list;

receiving a first calling number;

associating the first calling number with the first routing list;

receiving a second plurality of directory numbers for said subscriber;

receiving a second order for the directory numbers;

creating a second routing list;

receiving a second calling number;

associating the second calling number with the second routing list;

receiving said call from an originating source;

identifying said originating source of said call;

selecting a routing list from said plurality of routing lists based on the identity of said originating source, wherein selecting the routing list comprises matching the identity of the originating source with a calling number associated with one of the plurality of distinct routing lists;
and

directing said call sequentially to the directory numbers on said routing list selected.

2. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said selecting a routing list step further comprises:
retrieving a default routing list if the identity of the originating source does not match any of the calling numbers associated with the routing lists.

3. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein identifying said originating source of said call further comprises:
requesting said originating source to provide an identification code; and
receiving said identification code.

4. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said integrated computer telephony system provides a calling line identification service and identifying said originating source of said call further comprises:
receiving a calling line identification for said originating source; and
using the calling line identification to identify the originating source.

5. (Previously Presented) In a program module responsive to receiving communications for a personal number subscriber, a method for routing a communication to said subscriber, comprising:

creating a plurality of distinct routing lists for a telephony subscriber, each of said routing lists comprising an ordered list of directory numbers where the subscriber may be reached and being associated with at least one originating source;

wherein creating said plurality of distinct routing lists comprises:

receiving a first plurality of directory numbers for said subscriber;
receiving a first order for the directory numbers;
creating a first routing list;
receiving a first calling number;
associating the first calling number with the first routing list;

receiving a second plurality of directory numbers for said subscriber;
receiving a second order for the directory numbers;
creating a second routing list;
receiving a second calling number;
associating the second calling number with the second routing list;
receiving a communication directed to a personal number from an originating party;
identifying said originating party of said communication;
selecting a routing list from said plurality of routing lists based on the identify of said originating party, wherein selecting the routing list comprises matching the identify of the originating party with a directory number associated with one of the plurality of distinct routing lists; and
directing said communication sequentially to the directory numbers on said routing list.

6. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 5, wherein said selecting a routing list step further comprises:

retrieving a default routing list if the identity of the originating party does not match any of the calling numbers associated with the routing lists.

7. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 5, wherein identifying said originating party of said communication further comprises:

requesting said originating party to enter an identification code; and
receiving an identification code.

8. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 5, wherein said selecting a routing list step further comprises selecting said routing list from a group of routing lists identified for said originating party based on the day of the week said communication is received.

9. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 5, wherein said selecting a routing list step further comprises selecting said routing list from a group of routing lists identified for said originating party based on the time of day said communication is received.

10. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 5, wherein said selecting a routing list step further comprises selecting said routing list from a group of routing lists identified for said originating party based on the day of the week and the time of the day said communication is received.

11. (Previously Presented) A computer system for routing calls for a personal number subscriber based on the calling line identification of an originating party, comprising:

a processing unit;

a memory storage device operative to store a plurality of routing lists for said personal number subscriber by:

receiving a first plurality of directory numbers for said subscriber;

receiving a first order for the directory numbers;

creating a first routing list;

receiving a first calling number;

associating the first calling number with the first routing list;

receiving a second plurality of directory numbers for said subscriber;

receiving a second order for the directory numbers;

creating a second routing list;

receiving a second calling number; and

associating the second calling number with the second routing list;

a receiving interface device coupled to said processing unit for receiving calls;

a transmitting interface device coupled to said processing unit for placing calls;

said processing unit being operative to:

receiving a call on said receiving interface device from an originating party, said call being directed to said personal number subscriber;

detect a calling line identification for said originating party;
retrieve the first routing list associated with the first calling number from said memory storage device if the calling line identification corresponds to said first calling number;
retrieve a default routing list from said memory storage device if the calling number is not associated with one of the routing lists; and
direct said call sequentially to the directory numbers on said retrieved routing list.

12. (Previously Presented) The computer system of claim 11, wherein said processing unit directs said call sequentially to the directory numbers on said retrieved routing list by:

- (a) selecting a first directory number from said routing list;
- (b) routing said call to said first directory number;
- (c) receiving communication disposition information from said first directory number; and
- (d) if said communication disposition indicates said retrieved routing step failed, selecting a next directory number from said routing list and repeating steps (b)-(d) at said next directory number.

13. (Previously Presented) A computer-readable medium on which is stored a computer program for selecting a routing list and directing a call based on an identifying criteria, and a data file containing a plurality of routing lists for a called party, wherein each of said routing lists comprises a plurality of directory numbers where the subscriber can be reached, said directory numbers being in an order determined by the subscriber, said computer program comprising instructions which, when executed by a computer, perform the steps of:

creating a plurality of distinct routing lists for a telephony subscriber, each of said routing lists comprising an ordered list of directory numbers where the subscriber can be reached and being associated with at least one originating source;

wherein creating said plurality of distinct routing lists comprises:

- receiving a first plurality of directory numbers for said subscriber;
- receiving a first order for the directory numbers;

creating a first routing list;
receiving a first calling number;
associating the first calling number with the first routing list;
receiving a second plurality of directory numbers for said subscriber;
receiving a second order for the directory numbers;
creating a second routing list;
receiving a second calling number; and
associating the second calling number with the second routing list;
receiving a communication for said called party;
obtaining said identifying criteria from said communication;
retrieving a routing list from said data file based on said identifying criteria; and
directing said communication sequentially to the directory numbers listed on said routing
list.

14. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium recited in claim 13, wherein said identifying criteria comprises a calling line identification message and said step of obtaining an identifying criteria further comprises receiving said calling line identification message.

15. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium recited in claim 13, wherein said identifying criteria comprises a dual tone multi-frequency code sequence and said step of obtaining an identifying criteria further comprises detecting said dual tone multi-frequency code sequences.

16. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium recited in claim 13, wherein said identifying criteria comprises a dual tone multi-frequency code sequence and said step of obtaining identifying criteria further comprises the steps of:
providing keypad menu selection options to said called party; and
receiving a dual tone multi-frequency signal corresponding to a keypad menu selection from said called party.

17. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein identifying said originating source of said call further comprises:

requesting said originating source to provide a speech sample; and
receiving said speech sample.

18. (Previously Presented) the method of claim 5, wherein identifying said originating party of said communications further comprises:

requesting said originating party to enter a speech sample; and
receiving said speech sample.

19. (Canceled)

20. (Canceled)

21. (Canceled)

22. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said selecting a routing list step further comprises selecting said routing list based on the day of the week said communication is received.

23. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said selecting a routing list step further comprises selecting said routing list based on the time of day said communication is received.

24. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said selecting a routing list step further comprises selecting said routing list based on the day of the week and the time of the day said communication is received.

25. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said selecting a routing list step further comprises the steps of:

- detecting an area code associated with said originating source;
- retrieving an associated routing list for said originating source based on the area code; and
- retrieving a default routing list if said associating routing list does not exist.

26. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said selecting a routing list step further comprises the steps of:

- detecting an exchange associated with said originating source;
- retrieving an associated routing list for said originating source based on said exchange; and
- retrieving a default routing list if said associated routing list does not exist.

27. (Canceled)

28. (Previously Presented) In an integrated computer telephony system including a call routing system, a method for routing a call, the method comprising the steps of:

- maintaining a plurality of routing lists for a telephony subscriber, each of the routing lists being associated with at least one originating source and comprising an ordered list of directory numbers where the subscriber can be reached;
- receiving a call from an originating source;
- requesting that the originating source provide identifying information;
- receiving from the originating source identifying information;
- selecting a particular routing list from the plurality of routing lists based at least in part upon the received identifying information; and
- directing the call sequentially to the directory numbers on the particular routing list.

29. (Previously Presented) In an integrated computer telephony system including a call routing system, a method for routing a call, the method comprising the steps of:

- maintaining a plurality of routing lists for a telephony subscriber of a private branch exchange coupled to a public switched telephone network, each of the routing lists being associated with at least one originating source and comprising an ordered list of directory numbers where the subscriber can be reached;
- receiving a call from an originating source;
- determining whether the call is external or internal to the private branch exchange;
- selecting a particular routing list from the plurality of routing lists based at least in part upon the determination of whether the call is external or internal to the private branch exchange; and
- directing the call sequentially to the directory numbers on the particular routing list.

30. (Previously Presented) In an integrated computer telephony system including a call routing system, a method for routing a call, the method comprising the steps of:

- maintaining a plurality of routing lists for a telephony subscriber, each of the routing lists being associated with at least one originating source and comprising an ordered list of directory numbers where the subscriber can be reached;
- receiving a call from an originating source;
- determining whether the call requires special processing;
- responsive to determining the call does not require special processing, further including the steps of:
 - providing the originating source with keypad menu selection options;
 - receiving from the originating source a dual tone multi-frequency signal corresponding to a keypad menu selection;
 - selecting a particular routing list from the plurality of routing lists based at least in part upon the received signal; and
 - directing the call sequentially to the directory numbers on the particular routing list.

31. (Currently Amended) In an integrated computer telephony system including a call routing system, a method for routing a call based on the identity of an originating source of said call, comprising the steps of:

maintaining a plurality of routing lists, each of said routing lists being associated with at least one originating source and each routing list comprising a plurality of directory numbers;

receiving said call from said originating source;

selecting a routing list associated with said originating source from said plurality of routing lists; and

directing said call sequentially to the directory numbers on said routing list.

32. (Previously Presented) In an integrated computer telephony system including a call routing system, a method for routing a call, comprising the steps of:

maintaining a plurality of routing lists, each routing list comprising a plurality of directory numbers;

receiving the call from an originating source;

receiving identifying criteria;

using the identifying criteria to determine whether a first routing lists exists, wherein the first routing list is associated with the originating source by the identifying criteria;

responsive to determining the first routing list exists, further including the steps of:

- (a) retrieving the first routing list;
- (b) directing the call to one of the directory numbers on the first routing list;
- (c) determining whether the call was connected;
- (d) responsive to the call not being connected, determining whether the call has been directed to each directory number on the first routing list;
- (e) responsive to determining both that the call has not been connected and that the call has not been directed to each directory number on first routing list, repeating steps (b), (c), and (d);

- (f) responsive to determining both that the call has not been connected and that the call has been directed to each directory number on first routing list, retrieving a second routing list, the second routing list being a default routing list;
 - (h) responsive to determining both that the call has not been connected and that the call has been directed to each directory number on first routing list, directing the call to one of the directory numbers on the default routing list;
 - (i) responsive to determining both that the call has not been connected and that the call has been directed to each directory number on first routing list, determining whether the call was connected;
 - (j) responsive to determining both that the call has not been connected and that the call has been directed to each directory number on first routing list and responsive to the call not being connected, repeating steps (h), and (i);
- responsive to determining the first routing list does not exist, further including the steps of:
- (k) retrieving the default routing list;
 - (l) directing the call to one of the directory numbers on the default routing list;
 - (m) determining whether the call was connected; and
 - (n) responsive to the call not being connected, repeating steps (l), and (m).

REMARKS

In response to the Office Action mailed from the U.S.P.T.O. on December 2, 2004, (Part of Paper No./Mail Date 20041124) Applicants respectfully request reconsideration based on the above claim amendment and the following remarks. Applicants believe that no new matter has been introduced by way of this Response, and Applicants respectfully submit that the claims as presented are in condition for allowance.

Please enter the following amendment in which claim 31 is amended. Upon entry of this Response, claims 1-18, 22-26, and 28-32 are now pending in the present application. Reconsideration and allowance of the application and presently pending claims, as amended, are respectfully requested. Other statements not explicitly addressed herein are not admitted.

Examiner Interview

Applicants first wish to express their sincere appreciation for the time that Examiner Tieu spent with Applicants' representatives Jeffrey Kuester and Eric Ringer during a January 18, 2005 telephone discussion regarding the above-identified Office Action.

During the interview, claim 31 and U.S. Pat. No. 5,329,578 were discussed. No agreement regarding possible amendments to claim 31 was reached. In addition, Examiner Tieu cited U.S. Pat. No. 5,802,160 as disclosing "a plurality of routing lists." Again, Applicants wish to thank Examiner Tieu for his time and consideration.

Allowable Claims

Applicants first wish to express their sincere appreciation for the Examiner's indication that pending claims 1 – 18, 22 – 26, 28 – 30, and 32 are allowed.

Rejections of Claim 31 Under 35 U.S.C. §102(b)

The Office Action rejects claim 31 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Brennan *et. al.* (U.S. Patent No. 5,329,578). For the reasons set forth below, Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection.

Independent claim 31 recites:

33. A method for routing a call based on the identity of an originating source of said call, comprising the steps of:

- maintaining a plurality of routing lists, each of said routing lists being associated with at least one originating source and each routing list comprising a plurality of directory numbers;
- receiving said call from said originating source;
- selecting a routing list associated with said originating source from said plurality of routing lists; and
- directing said call sequentially to the directory numbers on said routing list.***

For a proper rejection of a claim under 35 U.S.C. §102, the cited reference must disclose, teach, or suggest all elements/features/steps of the claim at issue. *See, e.g., E.I. du Pont de Nemours & Co. v. Phillips Petroleum Co.*, 849 F.2d 1430, 7 U.S.P.Q.2d 1129 (Fed. Cir. 1988).

Applicant respectfully submits that independent claim 31 as amended is allowable for at least the reason that *Brennan* does not disclose, teach, or suggest at least **directing said call sequentially to the directory numbers on said routing list**. *Brennan* discloses that if "the CLID matches that of a caller on the subscriber's Caller List 26 ..., any special treatment is determined from the Caller List (see Table 1.0)." *See Brennan*, col. 11, lines 42-45. Table 1.0 in *Brennan* provides a single forwarding number for each CLID. *See Brennan*, col. 5, Table 1.0. *Brennan* only discloses directing a call to a single number associated with a CLID. Therefore, *Brennan* cannot disclose directing a call **sequentially** to numbers on a routing list. Notwithstanding, no such teaching can be identified anywhere within this reference. Therefore, *Brennan* does not anticipate claim 31, and the rejection should be withdrawn.

Serial No.: 08/876,839
Art Unit: 2642

CONCLUSION

In light of the foregoing amendments and for at least the reasons set forth above, Applicants respectfully submit that all objections and/or rejections have been traversed, rendered moot, and/or accommodated, and that the now pending claims 1-18, 22-26, and 28-32 are in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the present application and all pending claims are hereby courteously requested. If, in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephonic conference would expedite the examination of this matter, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned agent at (770) 933-9500.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'JKuester', written over a horizontal line.

Jeffrey R. Kuester, Reg. No.: 34,367

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of:)	Group Art Unit: 2642
)	
Holt, et al.	)	Confirmation No.: 5436
)	
Serial No.: 08/876,839	)	Examiner: Tieu, Benny Quoc
)	
Filed: June 16, 1997	)	Docket No. 190251-1270

For: **METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR ROUTING CALLS BASED ON IDENTIFICATION OF THE CALLING PARTY OR CALLING LINE**

AMENDMENT

Mail Stop 313(c)
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

In regard to the above-referenced application, the Applicant submits the following preliminary amendments and remarks to be respectively entered and considered prior to examination.

It is not believed that extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required, beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, in the event that additional extensions of time are necessary to allow consideration of this paper, such extensions are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), and any fees required therefor (including fees for net addition of claims) are hereby authorized to be charged to Deposit Account No. 20-0778.

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1 1. (Previously Presented) In an integrated computer telephony system including a call
2 routing system, a method for routing a call based on the identity of an originating source of said
3 call, comprising:
4 creating a plurality of distinct routing lists for a telephony subscriber, each of said routing
5 lists being associated with at least one originating source and comprising an ordered list of directory
6 numbers where the subscriber can be reached;
7 wherein creating said plurality of distinct routing lists comprises:
8 receiving a first plurality of directory numbers for said subscriber;
9 receiving a first order for the directory numbers;
10 creating a first routing list;
11 receiving a first calling number;
12 associating the first calling number with the first routing list;
13 receiving a second plurality of directory numbers for said subscriber;
14 receiving a second order for the directory numbers;
15 creating a second routing list;
16 receiving a second calling number;
17 associating the second calling number with the second routing list;
18 receiving said call from an originating source;
19 identifying said originating source of said call;
20 selecting a routing list from said plurality of routing lists based on the identity of said
21 originating source, wherein selecting the routing list comprises matching the identity of the
22 originating source with a calling number associated with one of the plurality of distinct routing lists;
23 and
24 directing said call sequentially to the directory numbers on said routing list selected.

1 2. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said selecting a routing list
2 step further comprises:
3 retrieving a default routing list if the identity of the originating source does not match any of
4 the calling numbers associated with the routing lists.

1 3. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein identifying said originating
2 source of said call further comprises:
3 requesting said originating source to provide an identification code; and
4 receiving said identification code.

1 4. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said integrated computer
2 telephony system provides a calling line identification service and identifying said originating
3 source of said call further comprises:
4 receiving a calling line identification for said originating source; and
5 using the calling line identification to identify the originating source.

1 5. (Previously Presented) In a program module responsive to receiving communi-
2 cations for a personal number subscriber, a method for routing a communication to said subscriber,
3 comprising:

4 creating a plurality of distinct routing lists for a telephony subscriber, each of said routing
5 lists comprising an ordered list of directory numbers where the subscriber may be reached and
6 being associated with at least one originating source;

7 wherein creating said plurality of distinct routing lists comprises:

8 receiving a first plurality of directory numbers for said subscriber;

9 receiving a first order for the directory numbers;

10 creating a first routing list;

11 receiving a first calling number;

12 associating the first calling number with the first routing list;

13 receiving a second plurality of directory numbers for said subscriber;

14 receiving a second order for the directory numbers;

15 creating a second routing list;

16 receiving a second calling number;

17 associating the second calling number with the second routing list;

18 receiving a communication directed to a personal number from an originating party;

19 identifying said originating party of said communication;

20 selecting a routing list from said plurality of routing lists based on the identify of said
21 originating party, wherein selecting the routing list comprises matching the identify of the
22 originating party with a directory number associated with one of the plurality of distinct routing
23 lists; and

24 directing said communication sequentially to the directory numbers on said routing list.

1 6. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 5, wherein said selecting a routing list
2 step further comprises:

3 retrieving a default routing list if the identity of the originating party does not match any of
4 the calling numbers associated with the routing lists.

1 7. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 5, wherein identifying said originating
2 party of said communication further comprises:

3 requesting said originating party to enter an identification code; and
4 receiving an identification code.

1 8. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 5, wherein said selecting a routing list
2 step further comprises selecting said routing list from a group of routing lists identified for said
3 originating party based on the day of the week said communication is received.

1 9. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 5, wherein said selecting a routing list
2 step further comprises selecting said routing list from a group of routing lists identified for said
3 originating party based on the time of day said communication is received.

1 10. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 5, wherein said selecting a routing list
2 step further comprises selecting said routing list from a group of routing lists identified for said
3 originating party based on the day of the week and the time of the day said communication is
4 received.

1 11. (Previously Presented) A computer system for routing calls for a personal number
2 subscriber based on the calling line identification of an originating party, comprising:
3 a processing unit;
4 a memory storage device operative to store a plurality of routing lists for said personal
5 number subscriber by:
6 receiving a first plurality of directory numbers for said subscriber;
7 receiving a first order for the directory numbers;
8 creating a first routing list;
9 receiving a first calling number;
10 associating the first calling number with the first routing list;
11 receiving a second plurality of directory numbers for said subscriber;
12 receiving a second order for the directory numbers;
13 creating a second routing list;
14 receiving a second calling number; and
15 associating the second calling number with the second routing list;
16 a receiving interface device coupled to said processing unit for receiving calls;
17 a transmitting interface device coupled to said processing unit for placing calls;
18 said processing unit being operative to:
19 receiving a call on said receiving interface device from an originating party, said call
20 being directed to said personal number subscriber;
21 detect a calling line identification for said originating party;
22 retrieve the first routing list associated with the first calling number from said
23 memory storage device if the calling line identification corresponds to said first calling number;
24 retrieve a default routing list from said memory storage device if the calling number
25 is not associated with one of the routing lists; and
26 direct said call sequentially to the directory numbers on said retrieved routing list.

1 12. (Previously Presented) The computer system of claim 11, wherein said processing
2 unit directs said call sequentially to the directory numbers on said retrieved routing list by:

3 (a) selecting a first directory number from said routing list;

4 (b) routing said call to said first directory number;

5 (c) receiving communication disposition information from said first directory
6 number, and

7 (d) if said communication disposition indicates said retrieved routing step failed,
8 selecting a next directory number from said routing list and repeating steps (b)-(d) at said next
9 directory number.

1 13. (Previously Presented) A computer-readable medium on which is stored a computer
2 program for selecting a routing list and directing a call based on an identifying criteria, and a data
3 file containing a plurality of routing lists for a called party, wherein each of said routing lists
4 comprises a plurality of directory numbers where the subscriber can be reached, said directory
5 numbers being in an order determined by the subscriber, said computer program comprising
6 instructions which, when executed by a computer, perform the steps of:

7 creating a plurality of distinct routing lists for a telephony subscriber, each of said routing
8 lists comprising an ordered list of directory numbers where the subscriber can be reached and being
9 associated with at least one originating source;

10 wherein creating said plurality of distinct routing lists comprises:

11 receiving a first plurality of directory numbers for said subscriber;

12 receiving a first order for the directory numbers;

13 creating a first routing list;

14 receiving a first calling number;

15 associating the first calling number with the first routing list;

16 receiving a second plurality of directory numbers for said subscriber;

17 receiving a second order for the directory numbers;

18 creating a second routing list;

19 receiving a second calling number; and

20 associating the second calling number with the second routing list;

21 receiving a communication for said called party;

22 obtaining said identifying criteria from said communication;

23 retrieving a routing list from said data file based on said identifying criteria; and

24 directing said communication sequentially to the directory numbers listed on said routing

25 list.

1 14. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium recited in claim 13, wherein
2 said identifying criteria comprises a calling line identification message and said step of obtaining an
3 identifying criteria further comprises receiving said calling line identification message.

1 15. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium recited in claim 13, wherein
2 said identifying criteria comprises a dual tone multi-frequency code sequence and said step of
3 obtaining an identifying criteria further comprises detecting said dual tone multi-frequency code
4 sequences.

1 16. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium recited in claim 13, wherein
2 said identifying criteria comprises a dual tone multi-frequency code sequence and said step of
3 obtaining identifying criteria further comprises the steps of:
4 providing keypad menu selection options to said called party; and
5 receiving a dual tone multi-frequency signal corresponding to a keypad menu
6 selection from said called party.

1 17. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein identifying said originating
2 source of said call further comprises:
3 requesting said originating source to provide a speech sample; and
4 receiving said speech sample.

1 18. (Previously Presented) the method of claim 5, wherein identifying said originating
2 party of said communications further comprises:
3 requesting said originating party to enter a speech sample; and
4 receiving said speech sample.

1 19. (Cancelled)

1 20. (Cancelled)

1 21. (Cancelled)

1 22. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said selecting a routing list
2 step further comprises selecting said routing list based on the day of the week said communication
3 is received.

1 23. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said selecting a routing list
2 step further comprises selecting said routing list based on the time of day said communication is
3 received.

1 24. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said selecting a routing list
2 step further comprises selecting said routing list based on the day of the week and the time of the
3 day said communication is received.

1 25. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said selecting a routing list
2 step further comprises the steps of:

3 detecting an area code associated with said originating source;

4 retrieving an associated routing list for said originating source based on the area
5 code; and

6 retrieving a default routing list if said associating routing list does not exist.

1 26. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said selecting a routing list
2 step further comprises the steps of:

3 detecting an exchange associated with said originating source;

4 retrieving an associated routing list for said originating source based on said
5 exchange; and

6 retrieving a default routing list if said associated routing list does not exist.

1 27. (Cancelled)

1 28. (Previously Presented) In an integrated computer telephony system including a call
2 routing system, a method for routing a call, the method comprising the steps of:
3 maintaining a plurality of routing lists for a telephony subscriber, each of the routing lists
4 being associated with at least one originating source and comprising an ordered list of
5 directory numbers where the subscriber can be reached;
6 receiving a call from an originating source;
7 requesting that the originating source provide identifying information;
8 receiving from the originating source identifying information;
9 selecting a particular routing list from the plurality of routing lists based at least in part upon
10 the received identifying information; and
11 directing the call sequentially to the directory numbers on the particular routing list.

1 29. (Previously Presented) In an integrated computer telephony system including a call
2 routing system, a method for routing a call, the method comprising the steps of:
3 maintaining a plurality of routing lists for a telephony subscriber of a private branch
4 exchange coupled to a public switched telephone network, each of the routing lists being
5 associated with at least one originating source and comprising an ordered list of directory
6 numbers where the subscriber can be reached;
7 receiving a call from an originating source;
8 determining whether the call is external or internal to the private branch exchange;
9 selecting a particular routing list from the plurality of routing lists based at least in part upon
10 the determination of whether the call is external or internal to the private branch
11 exchange; and
12 directing the call sequentially to the directory numbers on the particular routing list.

1 30. (Previously Presented) In an integrated computer telephony system including a call
2 routing system, a method for routing a call, the method comprising the steps of:
3 maintaining a plurality of routing lists for a telephony subscriber, each of the routing lists
4 being associated with at least one originating source and comprising an ordered list of
5 directory numbers where the subscriber can be reached;
6 receiving a call from an originating source;
7 determining whether the call requires special processing;
8 responsive to determining the call does not require special processing, further including the
9 steps of:
10 providing the originating source with keypad menu selection options;
11 receiving from the originating source a dual tone multi-frequency signal
12 corresponding to a keypad menu selection;
13 selecting a particular routing list from the plurality of routing lists based at least in
14 part upon the received signal; and
15 directing the call sequentially to the directory numbers on the particular routing list.

1 31. (New) In an integrated computer telephony system including a call routing system,
2 a method for routing a call based on the identity of an originating source of said call, comprising the
3 steps of:
4 maintaining a plurality of routing lists, each of said routing lists being associated with at
5 least one originating source and each routing list comprising a plurality of directory
6 numbers;
7 receiving said call from said originating source;
8 selecting a routing list associated with said originating source from said plurality of routing
9 lists; and
10 directing said call to the directory numbers on said routing list.

1 32. (New) In an integrated computer telephony system including a call routing system,
2 a method for routing a call, comprising the steps of:
3 maintaining a plurality of routing lists, each routing list comprising a plurality of directory
4 numbers;
5 receiving the call from an originating source;
6 receiving identifying criteria;
7 using the identifying criteria to determine whether a first routing lists exists, wherein the
8 first routing list is associated with the originating source by the identifying criteria;
9 responsive to determining the first routing list exists, further including the steps of:
10 (a) retrieving the first routing list;
11 (b) directing the call to one of the directory numbers on the first routing list;
12 (c) determining whether the call was connected;
13 (d) responsive to the call not being connected, determining whether the call has been
14 directed to each directory number on the first routing list;
15 (e) responsive to determining both that the call has not been connected and that the
16 call has not been directed to each directory number on first routing list,
17 repeating steps (b), (c), and (d);
18 (f) responsive to determining both that the call has not been connected and that the
19 call has been directed to each directory number on first routing list,
20 retrieving a second routing list, the second routing list being a default
21 routing list;
22 (h) responsive to determining both that the call has not been connected and that the
23 call has been directed to each directory number on first routing list, directing
24 the call to one of the directory numbers on the default routing list;
25 (i) responsive to determining both that the call has not been connected and that the
26 call has been directed to each directory number on first routing list,
27 determining whether the call was connected;
28 (j) responsive to determining both that the call has not been connected and that the
29 call has been directed to each directory number on first routing list and
30 responsive to the call not being connected, repeating steps (h), and (i);

31 responsive to determining the first routing list does not exist, further including the steps of:
32 (k) retrieving the default routing list;
33 (l) directing the call to one of the directory numbers on the default routing list;
34 (m) determining whether the call was connected; and
35 (n) responsive to the call not being connected, repeating steps (l), and (m).

REMARKS

Upon entry of the foregoing amendments, Applicants have added new claims 31 - 32. Applicants believe that the new claims are patentable, and therefore, Applicants deserve the protection of the new claims 31 - 32. It is believed that the foregoing amendments and additions add no new matter to the present application.

Favorable action in regard to the application is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

**THOMAS, KAYDEN, HORSTEMEYER
& RISLEY, L.L.P.**

By: 

Jeffrey R. Kuester, Reg. No.: 34,367

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Amendment as filed
September 8, 2005

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of:	)	Group Art Unit: 2642
)	
Holt, et al.	)	Confirmation No.: 5436
)	
Serial No.: 08/876,839	)	Examiner: Tieu, Benny Quoc
)	
Filed: June 16, 1997	)	Docket No. 190251-1270

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR ROUTING CALLS BASED ON IDENTIFICATION OF THE CALLING PARTY OR CALLING LINE

AMENDMENT

Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

Please enter the following amendments in which claims 1, 5, 11, 13, 28, 29, and 30 are amended. In accordance with 37 U.S.C. §1.114, a Request for Continued Examination is filed concurrently with this response to reopen prosecution.

It is not believed that extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required, beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, in the event that additional extensions of time are necessary to allow consideration of this paper, such extensions are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), and any fees required therefor (including fees for net addition of claims) are hereby authorized to be charged to Deposit Account No. 20-0778.

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) In an integrated computer telephony system including a call routing system, a method for routing a call based on the identity of an originating source of said call, comprising:

creating a plurality of ~~distinct~~ routing lists for a user ~~telephony subscriber~~, each of said routing lists being associated with at least one originating source and comprising an ordered list of directory numbers where the user ~~subscriber~~ can be reached;

wherein creating said plurality of distinct routing lists comprises:

receiving a first plurality of directory numbers for said user ~~subscriber~~;

receiving a first order for the directory numbers;

creating a first routing list;

receiving a first calling number;

associating the first calling number with the first routing list;

receiving a second plurality of directory numbers for said user ~~subscriber~~;

receiving a second order for the directory numbers;

creating a second routing list;

receiving a second calling number;

associating the second calling number with the second routing list;

receiving said call from an originating source;

identifying said originating source of said call;

selecting a routing list from said plurality of routing lists based on the identity of said originating source, wherein selecting the routing list comprises matching the identity of the originating source with a calling number associated with one of the plurality of distinct routing lists; and

directing said call sequentially to the directory numbers on said routing list selected.

2. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said selecting a routing list step further comprises:

retrieving a default routing list if the identity of the originating source does not match any of the calling numbers associated with the routing lists.

3. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein identifying said originating source of said call further comprises:

requesting said originating source to provide an identification code; and
receiving said identification code.

4. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said integrated computer telephony system provides a calling line identification service and identifying said originating source of said call further comprises:

receiving a calling line identification for said originating source; and
using the calling line identification to identify the originating source.

5. (Currently Amended) In a program module responsive to receiving communications for a user ~~personal-number~~ subscriber, a method for routing a communication to said user subscriber, comprising:

creating a plurality of distinct routing lists for a ~~telephony~~ user subscriber, each of said routing lists comprising an ordered list of directory numbers where the user subscriber may be reached and being associated with at least one originating source; wherein creating said plurality of distinct routing lists comprises:

receiving a first plurality of directory numbers for said user subscriber;
receiving a first order for the directory numbers;
creating a first routing list;
receiving a first calling number;
associating the first calling number with the first routing list;

receiving a second plurality of directory numbers for said user subscriber;
receiving a second order for the directory numbers;
creating a second routing list;
receiving a second calling number;
associating the second calling number with the second routing list;
receiving a communication directed to a personal number from an originating party;
identifying said originating party of said communication;
selecting a routing list from said plurality of routing lists based on the identify of said
originating party, wherein selecting the routing list comprises matching the identify
of the originating party with a directory number associated with one of the plurality
of distinct routing lists; and
directing said communication sequentially to the directory numbers on said routing list.

6. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 5, wherein said selecting a routing list step further comprises:

retrieving a default routing list if the identity of the originating party does not match any of
the calling numbers associated with the routing lists.

7. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 5, wherein identifying said originating party of said communication further comprises:

requesting said originating party to enter an identification code; and
receiving an identification code.

8. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 5, wherein said selecting a routing list step further comprises selecting said routing list from a group of routing lists identified for said originating party based on the day of the week said communication is received.

9. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 5, wherein said selecting a routing list step further comprises selecting said routing list from a group of routing lists identified for said originating party based on the time of day said communication is received.

10. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 5, wherein said selecting a routing list step further comprises selecting said routing list from a group of routing lists identified for said originating party based on the day of the week and the time of the day said communication is received.

11. (Currently Amended) A computer system for routing calls for a user personal number-subscriber based on the calling line identification of an originating party, comprising:
a processing unit;
a memory storage device operative to store a plurality of routing lists for said user personal number-subscriber by:
receiving a first plurality of directory numbers for said user subscriber;
receiving a first order for the directory numbers;
creating a first routing list;
receiving a first calling number;
associating the first calling number with the first routing list;
receiving a second plurality of directory numbers for said user subscriber;
receiving a second order for the directory numbers;
creating a second routing list;
receiving a second calling number; and
associating the second calling number with the second routing list;
a receiving interface device coupled to said processing unit for receiving calls;
a transmitting interface device coupled to said processing unit for placing calls;
said processing unit being operative to:
receiving a call on said receiving interface device from an originating party, said call
being directed to said user personal number-subscriber;

detect a calling line identification for said originating party;
retrieve the first routing list associated with the first calling number from said
memory storage device if the calling line identification corresponds to said
first calling number;
retrieve a default routing list from said memory storage device if the calling number
is not associated with one of the routing lists; and
direct said call sequentially to the directory numbers on said retrieved routing list.

12. (Previously Presented) The computer system of claim 11, wherein said processing unit directs said call sequentially to the directory numbers on said retrieved routing list by:

- (a) selecting a first directory number from said routing list;
- (b) routing said call to said first directory number;
- (c) receiving communication disposition information from said first directory number; and
- (d) if said communication disposition indicates said retrieved routing step failed, selecting a next directory number from said routing list and repeating steps (b)-(d) at said next directory number.

13. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium on which is stored a computer program for selecting a routing list and directing a call based on an identifying criteria, and a data file containing a plurality of routing lists for a called party, wherein each of said routing lists comprises a plurality of directory numbers where a user ~~the subscriber~~ can be reached, said directory numbers being in an order determined by the user ~~subscriber~~, said computer program comprising instructions which, when executed by a computer, perform the steps of:

creating a plurality of distinct routing lists for a ~~telephony~~ user ~~subscriber~~, each of said routing lists comprising an ordered list of directory numbers where the user ~~subscriber~~ can be reached and being associated with at least one originating source;
wherein creating said plurality of distinct routing lists comprises:
receiving a first plurality of directory numbers for said user ~~subscriber~~;

receiving a first order for the directory numbers;
creating a first routing list;
receiving a first calling number;
associating the first calling number with the first routing list;
receiving a second plurality of directory numbers for said user subscriber;
receiving a second order for the directory numbers;
creating a second routing list;
receiving a second calling number; and
associating the second calling number with the second routing list;
receiving a communication for said called party;
obtaining said identifying criteria from said communication;
retrieving a routing list from said data file based on said identifying criteria; and
directing said communication sequentially to the directory numbers listed on said routing list.

14. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium recited in claim 13, wherein said identifying criteria comprises a calling line identification message and said step of obtaining an identifying criteria further comprises receiving said calling line identification message.

15. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium recited in claim 13, wherein said identifying criteria comprises a dual tone multi-frequency code sequence and said step of obtaining an identifying criteria further comprises detecting said dual tone multi-frequency code sequences.

16. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium recited in claim 13, wherein said identifying criteria comprises a dual tone multi-frequency code sequence and said step of obtaining identifying criteria further comprises the steps of:

providing keypad menu selection options to said called party; and

receiving a dual tone multi-frequency signal corresponding to a keypad menu selection from said called party.

17. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein identifying said originating source of said call further comprises:

requesting said originating source to provide a speech sample; and
receiving said speech sample.

18. (Previously Presented) the method of claim 5, wherein identifying said originating party of said communications further comprises:

requesting said originating party to enter a speech sample; and
receiving said speech sample.

19. (Canceled)

20. (Canceled)

21. (Canceled)

22. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said selecting a routing list step further comprises selecting said routing list based on the day of the week said communication is received.

23. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said selecting a routing list step further comprises selecting said routing list based on the time of day said communication is received.

24. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said selecting a routing list step further comprises selecting said routing list based on the day of the week and the time of the day said communication is received.

25. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said selecting a routing list step further comprises the steps of:

- detecting an area code associated with said originating source;
- retrieving an associated routing list for said originating source based on the area code; and
- retrieving a default routing list if said associated routing list does not exist.

26. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said selecting a routing list step further comprises the steps of:

- detecting an exchange associated with said originating source;
- retrieving an associated routing list for said originating source based on said exchange; and
- retrieving a default routing list if said associated routing list does not exist.

27. (Canceled)

28. (Currently Amended) In an integrated computer telephony system including a call routing system, a method for routing a call, the method comprising the steps of:

- maintaining a plurality of routing lists for a ~~telephony~~ user subscriber, each of the routing lists being associated with at least one originating source and comprising an ordered list of directory numbers where the user subscriber can be reached;
- receiving a call from an originating source;
- requesting that the originating source provide identifying information;
- receiving from the originating source identifying information;

selecting a particular routing list from the plurality of routing lists based at least in part upon the received identifying information; and
directing the call sequentially to the directory numbers on the particular routing list.

29. (Currently Amended) In an integrated computer telephony system including a call routing system, a method for routing a call, the method comprising the steps of:
maintaining a plurality of routing lists for a telephony user subscriber of a private branch exchange coupled to a public switched telephone network, each of the routing lists being associated with at least one originating source and comprising an ordered list of directory numbers where the user subscriber can be reached;
receiving a call from an originating source;
determining whether the call is external or internal to the private branch exchange;
selecting a particular routing list from the plurality of routing lists based at least in part upon the determination of whether the call is external or internal to the private branch exchange; and
directing the call sequentially to the directory numbers on the particular routing list.

30. (Currently Amended) In an integrated computer telephony system including a call routing system, a method for routing a call, the method comprising the steps of:
maintaining a plurality of routing lists for a user telephony subscriber, each of the routing lists being associated with at least one originating source and comprising an ordered list of directory numbers where the user subscriber can be reached;
receiving a call from an originating source;
determining whether the call requires special processing;
responsive to determining the call does not require special processing, further including the steps of:
providing the originating source with keypad menu selection options;
receiving from the originating source a dual tone multi-frequency signal corresponding to a keypad menu selection;

selecting a particular routing list from the plurality of routing lists based at least in part upon the received signal; and
directing the call sequentially to the directory numbers on the particular routing list.

31. (Previously Presented) In an integrated computer telephony system including a call routing system, a method for routing a call based on the identity of an originating source of said call, comprising the steps of:

maintaining a plurality of routing lists, each of said routing lists being associated with at least one originating source and each routing list comprising a plurality of directory numbers;
receiving said call from said originating source;
selecting a routing list associated with said originating source from said plurality of routing lists; and
directing said call sequentially to the directory numbers on said routing list.

32. (Previously Presented) In an integrated computer telephony system including a call routing system, a method for routing a call, comprising the steps of:

maintaining a plurality of routing lists, each routing list comprising a plurality of directory numbers;
receiving the call from an originating source;
receiving identifying criteria;
using the identifying criteria to determine whether a first routing lists exists, wherein the first routing list is associated with the originating source by the identifying criteria;
responsive to determining the first routing list exists, further including the steps of:
(a) retrieving the first routing list;
(b) directing the call to one of the directory numbers on the first routing list;
(c) determining whether the call was connected;
(d) responsive to the call not being connected, determining whether the call has been directed to each directory number on the first routing list;

- (e) responsive to determining both that the call has not been connected and that the call has not been directed to each directory number on first routing list, repeating steps (b), (c), and (d);
 - (f) responsive to determining both that the call has not been connected and that the call has been directed to each directory number on first routing list, retrieving a second routing list, the second routing list being a default routing list;
 - (h) responsive to determining both that the call has not been connected and that the call has been directed to each directory number on first routing list, directing the call to one of the directory numbers on the default routing list;
 - (i) responsive to determining both that the call has not been connected and that the call has been directed to each directory number on first routing list, determining whether the call was connected;
 - (j) responsive to determining both that the call has not been connected and that the call has been directed to each directory number on first routing list and responsive to the call not being connected, repeating steps (h), and (i);
- responsive to determining the first routing list does not exist, further including the steps of:
- (k) retrieving the default routing list;
 - (l) directing the call to one of the directory numbers on the default routing list;
 - (m) determining whether the call was connected; and
 - (n) responsive to the call not being connected, repeating steps (l), and (m).

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the claims based on the above claim amendments. Specifically, claims 1, 5, 11, 13, 28, 29, and 30 are amended. Applicants believe that no new matter has been introduced by way of this Response, and Applicants respectfully submit that the claims as presented are in condition for allowance.

Upon entry of this Response, claims 1-18, 22-26, and 28-32 are now pending in the present application. Reconsideration and allowance of the application and presently pending claims, as amended, are respectfully requested. Other statements not explicitly addressed herein are not admitted.

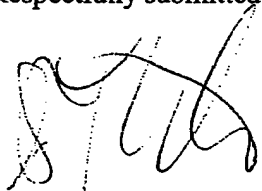
Allowable Claims

Applicants wish to express their sincere appreciation for the Examiner's indication that pending claims 1 – 18, 22 – 26, 28 – 32 contain allowable subject matter.

CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully submit that the now pending claims 1-18, 22-26, and 28-32 are in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the present application and all pending claims are hereby courteously requested. If, in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephonic conference would expedite the examination of this matter, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned agent at (770) 933-9500.

Respectfully submitted,



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Amendment as filed
December 30, 2005

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of:	)	Group Art Unit: 2642
)	
Holt, et al.	)	Confirmation No.: 5436
)	
Serial No.: 08/876,839	)	Examiner: Tieu, Benny Quoc
)	
Filed: June 16, 1997	)	Docket No. 190251-1270
For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR ROUTING CALLS BASED ON IDENTIFICATION OF THE CALLING PARTY OR CALLING LINE		

SUPPLEMENTAL AMENDMENT

Mail Stop Petition
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

Please enter the following amendments and consider the following remarks.

It is not believed that extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required, beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, in the event that additional extensions of time are necessary to allow consideration of this paper, such extensions are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), and any fees required therefor (including fees for net addition of claims) are hereby authorized to be charged to Deposit Account No. 20-0778.

AMENDMENT TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the specification as indicated hereafter. It is believed that the following amendments and additions add no new matter to the present application.

In the Specification:

Please amend the specification by replacing the paragraph starting on p. 1; line 1 with the following paragraph (where underlining “_” denotes additions and strikethrough or double brackets “[]” denotes deletions):

This application is a continuation-in-part of prior Application No. 08/469,491, filed June 6, 1995, U.S. Patent No. 5,764,747, entitled “Personal Number Communication System,” which is a continuation of Application No. 07/936,384, filed August 26, 1992, now abandoned, and which discloses a preferred embodiment of an integrated telecommunications system that can serve as an operational platform of the present invention and is incorporated herein by reference.

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Previously Presented) In an integrated computer telephony system including a call routing system, a method for routing a call based on the identity of an originating source of said call, comprising:

creating a plurality of routing lists for a user, each of said routing lists being associated with at least one originating source and comprising an ordered list of directory numbers where the user can be reached;

wherein creating said plurality of distinct routing lists comprises:

receiving a first plurality of directory numbers for said user;

receiving a first order for the directory numbers;

creating a first routing list;

receiving a first calling number;

associating the first calling number with the first routing list;

receiving a second plurality of directory numbers for said user;

receiving a second order for the directory numbers;

creating a second routing list;

receiving a second calling number;

associating the second calling number with the second routing list;

receiving said call from an originating source;

identifying said originating source of said call;

selecting a routing list from said plurality of routing lists based on the identity of said

originating source, wherein selecting the routing list comprises matching the identity

of the originating source with a calling number associated with one of the plurality

of distinct routing lists; and

directing said call sequentially to the directory numbers on said routing list selected.

2. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said selecting a routing list step further comprises:

retrieving a default routing list if the identity of the originating source does not match any of the calling numbers associated with the routing lists.

3. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein identifying said originating source of said call further comprises:

requesting said originating source to provide an identification code; and
receiving said identification code.

4. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said integrated computer telephony system provides a calling line identification service and identifying said originating source of said call further comprises:

receiving a calling line identification for said originating source; and
using the calling line identification to identify the originating source.

5. (Previously Presented) In a program module responsive to receiving communications for a user, a method for routing a communication to said user, comprising:

creating a plurality of distinct routing lists for a user, each of said routing lists comprising an ordered list of directory numbers where the user may be reached and being associated with at least one originating source;

wherein creating said plurality of distinct routing lists comprises:

receiving a first plurality of directory numbers for said user;
receiving a first order for the directory numbers;
creating a first routing list;
receiving a first calling number;
associating the first calling number with the first routing list;
receiving a second plurality of directory numbers for said user;

receiving a second order for the directory numbers;
creating a second routing list;
receiving a second calling number;
associating the second calling number with the second routing list;
receiving a communication directed to a number from an originating party;
identifying said originating party of said communication;
selecting a routing list from said plurality of routing lists based on the identify of said
originating party, wherein selecting the routing list comprises matching the identify
of the originating party with a directory number associated with one of the plurality
of distinct routing lists; and
directing said communication sequentially to the directory numbers on said routing list.

6. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 5, wherein said selecting a routing list step further comprises:

retrieving a default routing list if the identity of the originating party does not match any of
the calling numbers associated with the routing lists.

7. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 5, wherein identifying said originating party of said communication further comprises:

requesting said originating party to enter an identification code; and
receiving an identification code.

8. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 5, wherein said selecting a routing list step further comprises selecting said routing list from a group of routing lists identified for said originating party based on the day of the week said communication is received.

9. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 5, wherein said selecting a routing list step further comprises selecting said routing list from a group of routing lists identified for said originating party based on the time of day said communication is received.

10. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 5, wherein said selecting a routing list step further comprises selecting said routing list from a group of routing lists identified for said originating party based on the day of the week and the time of the day said communication is received.

11. (Previously Presented) A computer system for routing calls for a user based on the calling line identification of an originating party, comprising:

- a processing unit;

- a memory storage device operative to store a plurality of routing lists for said user by:

- receiving a first plurality of directory numbers for said user;

- receiving a first order for the directory numbers;

- creating a first routing list;

- receiving a first calling number;

- associating the first calling number with the first routing list;

- receiving a second plurality of directory numbers for said user;

- receiving a second order for the directory numbers;

- creating a second routing list;

- receiving a second calling number; and

- associating the second calling number with the second routing list;

- a receiving interface device coupled to said processing unit for receiving calls;

- a transmitting interface device coupled to said processing unit for placing calls;

- said processing unit being operative to:

- receiving a call on said receiving interface device from an originating party, said call being directed to said user;

- detect a calling line identification for said originating party;

retrieve the first routing list associated with the first calling number from said memory storage device if the calling line identification corresponds to said first calling number;
retrieve a default routing list from said memory storage device if the calling number is not associated with one of the routing lists; and
direct said call sequentially to the directory numbers on said retrieved routing list.

12. (Previously Presented) The computer system of claim 11, wherein said processing unit directs said call sequentially to the directory numbers on said retrieved routing list by:

- (a) selecting a first directory number from said routing list;
- (b) routing said call to said first directory number;
- (c) receiving communication disposition information from said first directory number; and
- (d) if said communication disposition indicates said retrieved routing step failed, selecting a next directory number from said routing list and repeating steps (b)-(d) at said next directory number.

13. (Previously Presented) A computer-readable medium on which is stored a computer program for selecting a routing list and directing a call based on an identifying criteria, and a data file containing a plurality of routing lists for a called party, wherein each of said routing lists comprises a plurality of directory numbers where a user can be reached, said directory numbers being in an order determined by the user, said computer program comprising instructions which, when executed by a computer, perform the steps of:

creating a plurality of distinct routing lists for a user, each of said routing lists comprising an ordered list of directory numbers where the user can be reached and being associated with at least one originating source;

wherein creating said plurality of distinct routing lists comprises:

- receiving a first plurality of directory numbers for said user;
- receiving a first order for the directory numbers;

creating a first routing list;
receiving a first calling number;
associating the first calling number with the first routing list;
receiving a second plurality of directory numbers for said user;
receiving a second order for the directory numbers;
creating a second routing list;
receiving a second calling number; and
associating the second calling number with the second routing list;
receiving a communication for said called party;
obtaining said identifying criteria from said communication;
retrieving a routing list from said data file based on said identifying criteria; and
directing said communication sequentially to the directory numbers listed on said routing list.

14. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium recited in claim 13, wherein said identifying criteria comprises a calling line identification message and said step of obtaining an identifying criteria further comprises receiving said calling line identification message.

15. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium recited in claim 13, wherein said identifying criteria comprises a dual tone multi-frequency code sequence and said step of obtaining an identifying criteria further comprises detecting said dual tone multi-frequency code sequences.

16. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium recited in claim 13, wherein said identifying criteria comprises a dual tone multi-frequency code sequence and said step of obtaining identifying criteria further comprises the steps of:

providing keypad menu selection options to said called party; and
receiving a dual tone multi-frequency signal corresponding to a keypad menu selection from said called party.

17. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein identifying said originating source of said call further comprises:

requesting said originating source to provide a speech sample; and
receiving said speech sample.

18. (Previously Presented) the method of claim 5, wherein identifying said originating party of said communications further comprises:

requesting said originating party to enter a speech sample; and
receiving said speech sample.

19. (Canceled)

20. (Canceled)

21. (Canceled)

22. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said selecting a routing list step further comprises selecting said routing list based on the day of the week said communication is received.

23. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said selecting a routing list step further comprises selecting said routing list based on the time of day said communication is received.

24. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said selecting a routing list step further comprises selecting said routing list based on the day of the week and the time of the day said communication is received.

25. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said selecting a routing list step further comprises the steps of:

- detecting an area code associated with said originating source;
- retrieving an associated routing list for said originating source based on the area code; and
- retrieving a default routing list if said associating routing list does not exist.

26. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said selecting a routing list step further comprises the steps of:

- detecting an exchange associated with said originating source;
- retrieving an associated routing list for said originating source based on said exchange; and
- retrieving a default routing list if said associated routing list does not exist.

27. (Canceled)

28. (Currently Amended) In an integrated computer telephony system including a call routing system, a method for routing a call, the method comprising the steps of:

- maintaining a plurality of routing lists for a user, each of the routing lists being associated with at least one originating source and comprising an ordered list of directory numbers where the user can be reached;
- receiving a call from an originating source;
- requesting that the originating source provide identifying information;
- receiving from the originating source identifying information;
- selecting a particular routing list from the plurality of routing lists based at least in part upon the received identifying information; and
- directing the call sequentially to the directory numbers on the particular routing list.

29. (Previously Presented) In an integrated computer telephony system including a call routing system, a method for routing a call, the method comprising the steps of:

- maintaining a plurality of routing lists for a user of a private branch exchange coupled to a public switched telephone network, each of the routing lists being associated with at least one originating source and comprising an ordered list of directory numbers where the user can be reached;
- receiving a call from an originating source;
- determining whether the call is external or internal to the private branch exchange;
- selecting a particular routing list from the plurality of routing lists based at least in part upon the determination of whether the call is external or internal to the private branch exchange; and
- directing the call sequentially to the directory numbers on the particular routing list.

30. (Previously Presented) In an integrated computer telephony system including a call routing system, a method for routing a call, the method comprising the steps of:

- maintaining a plurality of routing lists for a user, each of the routing lists being associated with at least one originating source and comprising an ordered list of directory numbers where the user can be reached;
- receiving a call from an originating source;
- determining whether the call requires special processing;
- responsive to determining the call does not require special processing, further including the steps of:
 - providing the originating source with keypad menu selection options;
 - receiving from the originating source a dual tone multi-frequency signal corresponding to a keypad menu selection;
 - selecting a particular routing list from the plurality of routing lists based at least in part upon the received signal; and
 - directing the call sequentially to the directory numbers on the particular routing list.

31. (Previously Presented) In an integrated computer telephony system including a call routing system, a method for routing a call based on the identity of an originating source of said call, comprising the steps of:

- maintaining a plurality of routing lists, each of said routing lists being associated with at least one originating source and each routing list comprising a plurality of directory numbers;
- receiving said call from said originating source;
- selecting a routing list associated with said originating source from said plurality of routing lists; and
- directing said call sequentially to the directory numbers on said routing list.

32. (Previously Presented) In an integrated computer telephony system including a call routing system, a method for routing a call, comprising the steps of:

- maintaining a plurality of routing lists, each routing list comprising a plurality of directory numbers;
- receiving the call from an originating source;
- receiving identifying criteria;
- using the identifying criteria to determine whether a first routing lists exists, wherein the first routing list is associated with the originating source by the identifying criteria;
- responsive to determining the first routing list exists, further including the steps of:
 - (a) retrieving the first routing list;
 - (b) directing the call to one of the directory numbers on the first routing list;
 - (c) determining whether the call was connected;
 - (d) responsive to the call not being connected, determining whether the call has been directed to each directory number on the first routing list;
 - (e) responsive to determining both that the call has not been connected and that the call has not been directed to each directory number on first routing list, repeating steps (b), (c), and (d);

- (f) responsive to determining both that the call has not been connected and that the call has been directed to each directory number on first routing list, retrieving a second routing list, the second routing list being a default routing list;
 - (h) responsive to determining both that the call has not been connected and that the call has been directed to each directory number on first routing list, directing the call to one of the directory numbers on the default routing list;
 - (i) responsive to determining both that the call has not been connected and that the call has been directed to each directory number on first routing list, determining whether the call was connected;
 - (j) responsive to determining both that the call has not been connected and that the call has been directed to each directory number on first routing list and responsive to the call not being connected, repeating steps (h), and (i);
- responsive to determining the first routing list does not exist, further including the steps of:
- (k) retrieving the default routing list;
 - (l) directing the call to one of the directory numbers on the default routing list;
 - (m) determining whether the call was connected; and
 - (n) responsive to the call not being connected, repeating steps (l), and (m).

33. (New) A system for routing a communication to a user, comprising:
- a receiving element configured to receive a first communication directed to a number assigned to the user;
 - a routing element communicatively coupled to the receiver, the routing element configured to access communication routing information in response to the first communication, the communication routing information including a list of destinations on a public switched telephone network, the list of destinations comprising a plurality of the destinations hierarchically arranged in order of user preference for communication routing, the routing element further configured to select a first destination on the list of destinations;
 - a transmitting element communicatively coupled to the routing element, the transmitting element configured to place a further communication to the destination, the further communication including an indication of the receipt of the first communication upon its arrival at the destination;
 - a receiving element configured to receive communication disposition information from the destination; and
 - a routing element configured to dispose of the first communication in accordance with the communication disposition information by either routing the first communication to the first destination or by selecting the next hierarchically arranged destination on the list of destinations.
34. (New) The system of claim 33, wherein the list of destinations comprises:
- a list of devices having at least two calling line numbers, the devices comprising at least one of the following: telephones, mobile phones, cellular phones, voice mail systems, facsimile devices, and paging devices.

35. (New) The system of claim 33, wherein the list of destinations comprises a first hierarchical list and a second hierarchical list, the first hierarchical list having destinations hierarchically arranged in order of user preference for communication routing during a first period of time, the second hierarchical list having destinations hierarchically arranged in order of user preference for communication routing during a second period of time.
36. (New) The system of claim 35, wherein the first period of time is a first portion of a twenty-four hour period and the second period of time is a second portion of the twenty-four hour period.
37. (New) The system of claim 35, wherein the first period of time is a first portion of a week and the second period of time is a second portion of the week.
38. (New) The system of claim 33, wherein the communication routing information further comprises:
- an override destination,
 - wherein the routing element is further configured:
 - to select the first destination on the list of the destinations to determine if a priority override is established;
 - if the priority override is established, then to determine whether the source of the communication is a priority caller; and
 - if the source is a priority caller, then to select and route the communication to the override destination.
39. (New) The system of claim 38, wherein the communication routing information further comprises a default destination, wherein the routing element is further configured to select and route the communication to the default destination if the source is not a priority caller.

40. (New) The system of claim 39, wherein the user has a voice mail service, and wherein the default destination comprises the voice mail service.
41. (New) The system of claim 34, wherein the routing element is further configured:
to access the communication routing information in response to receiving a call on a calling line from the user; and
to substitute a new destination for a destination in the list of destinations.
42. (New) The system of claim 41, wherein the routing element is further configured to request the new destination from the user.
43. (New) The system of claim 41, wherein the routing element is further configured to:
identify the calling line number associated with the calling line; and
confirm the calling line number as the new destination with the user.
44. (New) The system of claim 41, wherein the routing element is further configured to substitute an override destination for the destination in the list of destinations.
45. (New) The system of claim 44, wherein the first destination comprises the override destination.
46. (New) The system of claim 44, wherein the routing element is further configured:
to determine whether the source of the communication is a priority caller, and
if the source is a priority caller, then to select the override destination as the destination.
47. (New) The system of claim 46, wherein the routing element is further configured to then select a default destination for routing the communication if the source is not a priority caller.

48. (New) The system of claim 33, wherein the communication is initiated by a source, and the routing element is further configured to identify the source of the communication.
49. (New) The system of claim 48, wherein the indication of the receipt comprises the identity of the source.
50. (New) The system of claim 48, wherein the routing element is further configured to request a confirmation of the identity from the source.
51. (New) The system of claim 48, wherein the routing element is further configured to:
identify the calling line number associated with the source of the communication; and
determine the identity for the source by accessing a database to find a database entry corresponding to the calling line number.
52. (New) The system of claim 51, wherein the indication of the receipt comprises an indication of the identity obtained from the database.
53. (New) The system of claim 51, wherein the database comprises a user personalized database having entries of priority callers, and wherein the routing element is further configured to access the user personalized database to find a priority caller entry corresponding to the calling line number.
54. (New) The system of claim 53, wherein the indication of the receipt comprises the identity obtained from the user personalized database.
55. (New) The system of claim 53, wherein the indication of the receipt comprises:
an indication of the receipt of a priority call; and
an indication of the identity obtained from the user personalized database.

56. (New) The system of claim 53, wherein the routing element is further configured to request from the source a confirmation of the identity obtained from the user personalized database.

57. (New) The system of claim 33, wherein the routing element is further configured: to check the communication routing information for a mobile telephone destination; to check for a powered-on indication of the mobile telephone destination if the mobile telephone destination is present in the communication routing information; and to select the mobile telephone destination as the first destination if the mobile telephone destination provides the powered-on indication.

58. (New) The system of claim 33, wherein the routing element is further configured to request the communication disposition information before the routing element receives the communication disposition information.

59. (New) The system of claim 33, wherein the communication disposition information comprises an acceptance of the communication, and wherein the routing element receives the acceptance.

60. (New) The system of claim 59, wherein the communication disposition information comprises a rejection of the communication, and wherein the receiver receives the rejection.

61. (New) The system of claim 60, wherein the rejection comprises a failure to receive the acceptance.

62. (New) The system of claim 33, wherein the communication disposition information comprises an acceptance of the communication, and wherein the routing element is further configured to route the communication to the destination.

63. (New) The system of claim 33, wherein the communication disposition information comprises a rejection of the communication, and wherein the routing element is further configured to route the communication to a default destination.

64. (New) The system of claim 63, wherein the default destination comprises a voice mail service and wherein the routing element is further configured to route the communication to the mail service.

65. (New) The system of claim 63, wherein the rejection comprises a failure to receive an acceptance of the communication, and wherein the routing element is further configured to route the communication to a second destination.

66. (New) The system of claim 63, wherein the rejection comprises a failure to receive an acceptance of the communication, and wherein the routing element is further configured to route the communication to a default destination.

67. (New) The system of claim 33, wherein the communication disposition information comprises a rejection of the communication, and wherein the routing element is further configured to:

- select a second destination for routing the communication;
- indicate the receipt of the communication at the second destination;
- receive second communication disposition information; and
- dispose of the communication in accordance with the second communication disposition information.

68. (New) The system of claim 33, wherein the communication directed to the number is received and routed by a service circuit node according to the list of destinations.

69. (New) The system of claim 33, wherein the source of the communication hears ringing tones when the receipt of the communication at the destination is indicated.
70. (New) The system of claim 33, wherein if the communication is not routed to the first destination on the list of destinations, the source of the communication is informed that another destination is being contacted.
71. (New) The system of claim 33, wherein the user can modify the order of the hierarchically arranged destinations.

REMARKS

Upon entry of this Supplemental Amendment, continuation-in-part priority is now claimed to U.S. Pat. No. 5,764,747, and claims 1-18, 22-26, and 28-71 are now pending in the present application. Consideration and allowance of the present application and pending claims, as amended, are respectfully requested.

Upon addition of new claims 33-71, the present inventorship is also being amended to add Yue, Smets, Moquin, Kraus, Durand, and Berke in a petition filed in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.48(c). In addition, Applicants have also included therein a petition under 37 C.F.R. § 1.182 to make the amendments to inventorship, cross-reference, and claims effective to the filing date of June 16, 1997. In other words, despite the filing of continued prosecution applications (CPAs) on July 19, 2000, and on February 6, 2002, continuity is maintained through granting of the petition 37 C.F.R. § 1.182. Authority for amending earlier applications is provided in *Sampson v. Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks*, 195 U.S.P.Q. 136 (D.D.C., 1976). Thus, granting of the petition and entering this Supplemental Amendment will render the present application a continuation-in-part with priority to U.S. Pat. No. 5,764,747.

CONCLUSION

In light of the foregoing amendments and for at least the reasons set forth above, Applicants respectfully submit that the now pending claims 1-18, 22-26, and 28-71 are in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the present application and all pending claims are hereby courteously requested. If, in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephonic conference would expedite the examination of this matter, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned agent at (770) 933-9500.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'JKuester', is written over a horizontal line.

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